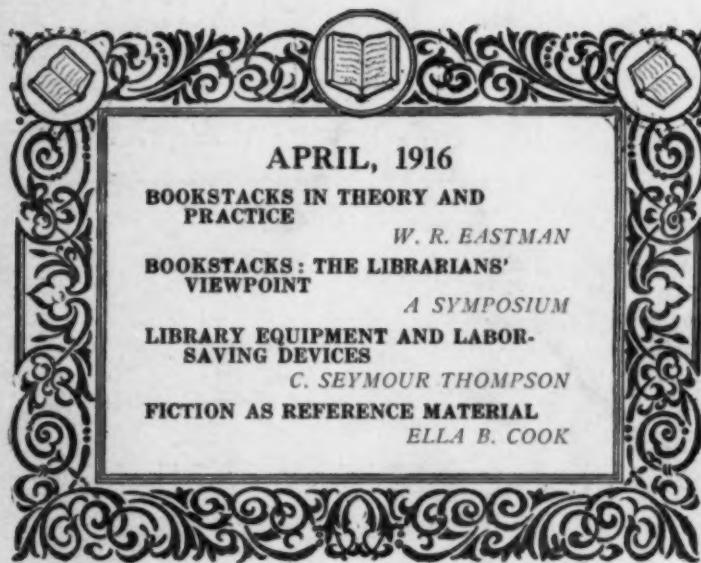


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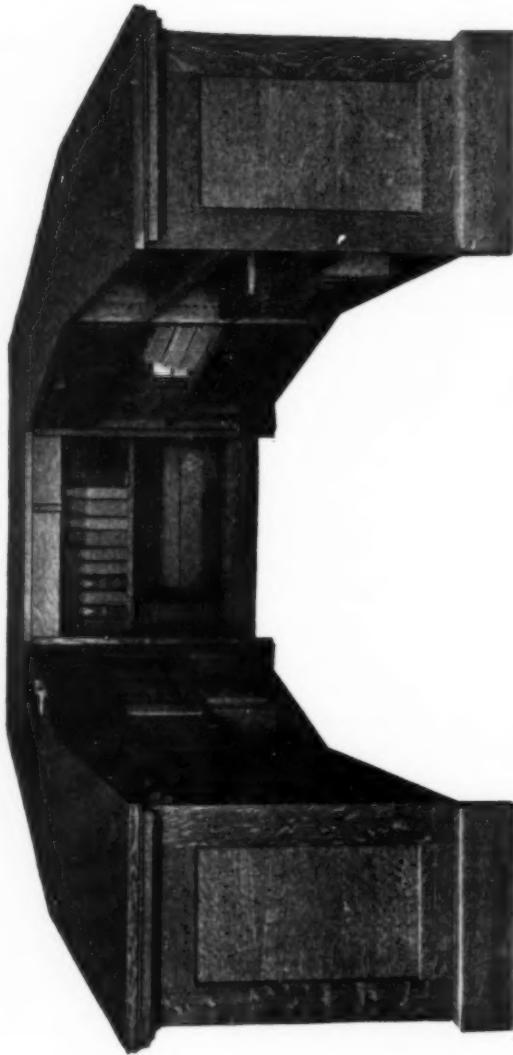
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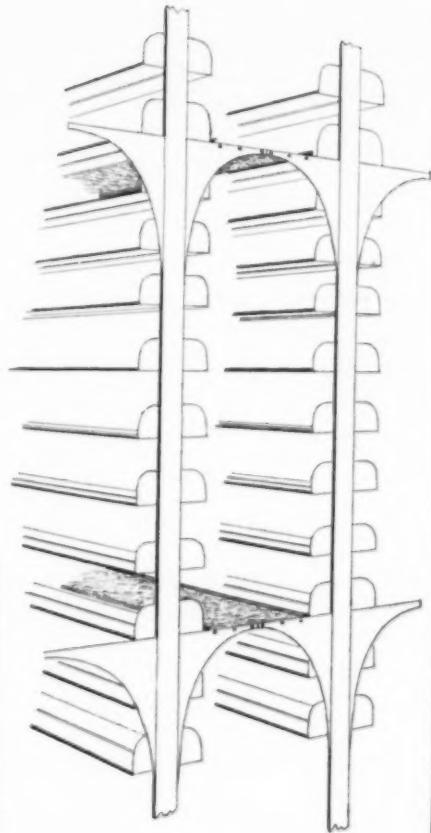
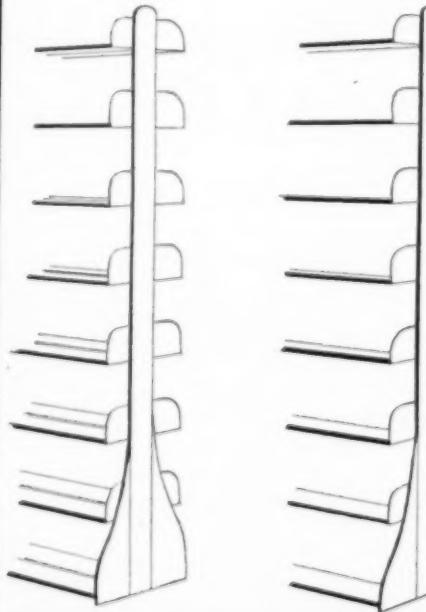
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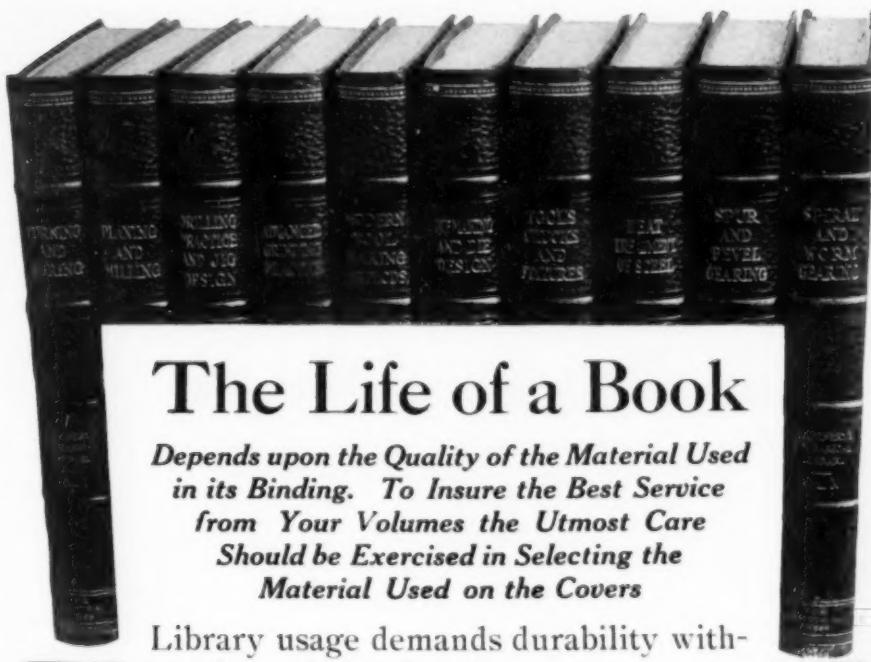
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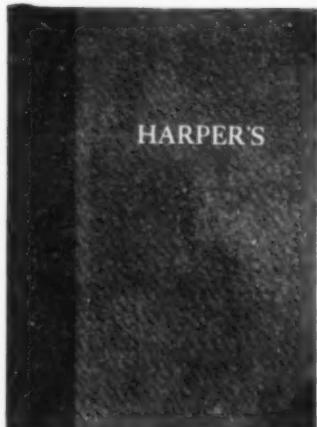
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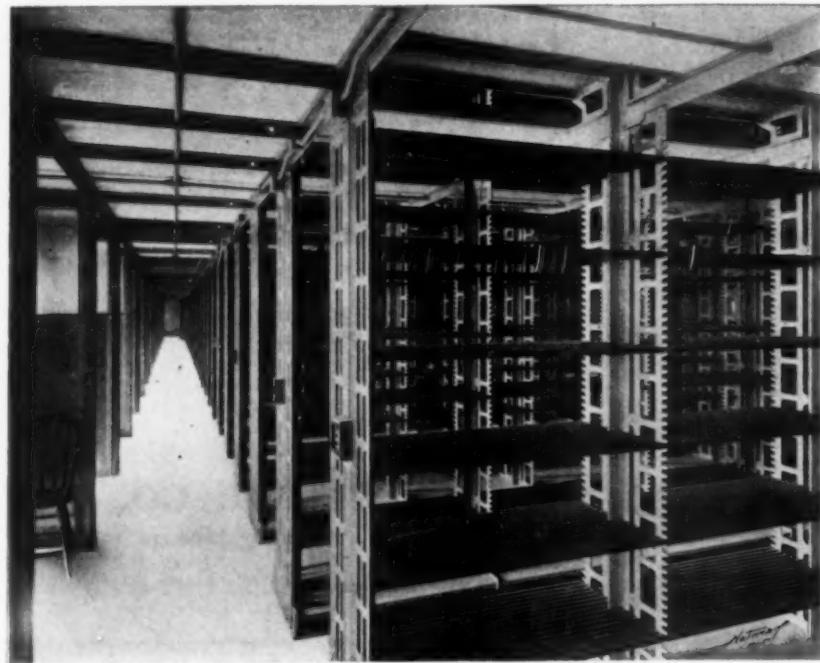
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THIS number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL gives special attention to bookstacks and new library devices, in connection with Mr. Thompson's paper regarding the progress of the work of his A. L. A. committee. This committee on labor-saving devices showed its first fruits in its excellent exhibition at the Washington conference, which is to be repeated as a feature of the Asbury Park conference this year. It has not attempted to cope with the bookstack problem, which will be always with us, but the competition of manufacturers in this field may be depended on to insure steady improvement in this *sine qua non* of library fittings. The rivalry is as much between two systems as between rival manufacturers—the standard system, which has the merit of rigidity and certainty, and the bracket system, which has the merit of convenience and adaptability. Mr. Borden claims to have found the happy medium between both out of his experience as a librarian, but his solution has yet to be tried out in practical experience. The metal bookstack as developed by Mr. Green for the Library of Congress, the original of the Snead stack, and by other inventors and adapters for the Library Bureau and other forms of stack, is especially an American product, which is being increasingly accepted in foreign library use.

AMERICAN ingenuity is also responsible for a large share of modern library devices, but we must admit that American invention is not responsible for all the triumphs of peace in library economy or elsewhere, or all the mechanical horrors of war. It was Herbert Spencer, while an engineer, who invented the first paper clip, as is illustrated in the story of his life; the first vacuum cleaner known to Americans was shown to them in 1897 in an English library, where, apparently, it originated; and, as we have previously pointed out,

Japan originated the revolving bookcase a few centuries before Danner, and President Eliot's invention of the mausoleum had been in use several decades among the Yankees of the East. Library devices are many and manifold, some useful only in the largest library systems, others useful everywhere. The alert librarian should be on the watch for everything that will save time and increase convenience, but must not become too mechanical and try to run everything by machinery. A hundred dollars may wisely be spent in library devices, if two hundred dollars' worth of time can thus be spared for more important work. It is not always possible to prove to trustees an actual money saving, because that means the saving of one person's full time, at least a single salary; and it has been the general experience, as, for instance, with the Library of Congress cards, that it is not easy to do this through co-operative help except in large library systems. If, however, the librarian or assistant can save time from mechanical work for vital work with library users, that will abundantly justify the purchase and use of additional library devices. Real labor saving is always one of the best of economies.

PRESIDENT RICHARDSON supplemented his plan for the practical development of the American Library Institute, published in our March number, with a second paper giving a bird's-eye view of the whole field of library work and scholarly research, which was an interesting feature of the successful spring gathering at Atlantic City. His scheme for making the Institute specifically an instrument for research and an inspiration for higher or specialized teaching within the library field, met with general approval and resulted in a more friendly feeling toward the possibilities of the Institute among several who had been its critics either in its inception or since.

It will be interesting to see this plan put to the test, especially as it can be co-ordinated later with the work of the Council of the A. L. A., as well as with the "sponsors for knowledge" plan. Attention was called during the discussion to the tendency in the Council of the A. L. A. to give time to the reading of papers rather than to the discussion and decision of questions in library economy and administration, as somewhat far afield from the function planned under the revised A. L. A. constitution.

THE best part of the Atlantic City meetings, the two sessions devoted to live discussions, reminded the old-timers of the best days of the A. L. A. If the same practice were followed of opening a discussion with a wide-awake paper on a mooted practical question, following that with brief written discussions and thus opening the way for a live debate occupying the rest of an hour, there would seem to be no reason why one or two sessions of even a large A. L. A. conference could not be brought back to this happy and inspiring interchange of views. A delightful evening of entertainment was occupied with an amusing series of musical humoresques (which had nothing, however, to do with the connection between books and music programmed as the subject), and with lantern slide illustrations of early books for children; but it was generally admitted that the daytime debates, really relating to library subjects, were more enjoyable as well as more useful to librarians as such. But others may think that "all work and no whirl, makes Jane a dull girl," and that it is worth while to make time for "librarians at play."

How much of the public's reading is supplied by public libraries was a conundrum which afforded text for one of the most wide-awake discussions at the Atlantic City conference, led by Miss Louise Connelly, the "educational expert" of the Newark Public Library, a lady of extraor-

dinary common sense, wide sympathy and infinite wit, whom Mr. Dana has promoted from the ranks of the teachers into a new library service. Her amusing calculation of the habits of commuters and other inhabitants of New Jersey, resulted in the conclusion that three-fifths of the reading of the community, especially the commuting community, was of newspapers and periodicals, and that of the more solid reading less than one-half, or one-fifth of all, came from public libraries. Naturally, people who have private libraries make comparatively little use of public libraries, and if the trustees present had been asked how many books they drew from their respective libraries, the figures would have been strikingly small; but about these readers the libraries need not worry. Their mission is to induce better reading, more effective reading than that of newspapers and flashy periodicals, among those whose reading is mostly of this kind. Miss Connelly's talk and the ensuing discussion indicated how extraordinarily large is this unworked field.

THE New Jersey Commission and the Newark Public Library made an interesting graphic exhibition at Atlantic City of library methods and results, and Mr. Dana presented a paper at one of the Institute meetings on "Exhibition methods of instruction." One of the Newark exhibits presented an interesting solution of the problem of cheaply bound books, which cost from 10 cents to 25 cents, but would cost 30 cents or 35 cents more if cataloged and shelved in regular course. The solution consisted in placing these books uncataloged on Multiplex display wing frames, where the public might select at their will, and their honesty was trusted to bring their selections to the charging desk for inclusion in the circulation. This seems an idea worth adoption in other libraries, small and large, and it is a good example of effective economical use of a new library device, described elsewhere in this number.

## BOOKSTACKS IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

BY W. R. EASTMAN

THE construction of a library bookstack presents problems which have received much careful study at the hands of librarians, architects and manufacturers. Certain conditions must be met. Books must be assembled in vast quantities; each book must be perfectly accessible and kept in the best possible condition. The structure must also be durable.

### THE PLAN

The first condition of success in planning is to provide ample shelf space. The extent of this can be determined only by counting and measuring the books, estimating as nearly as possible the additions and losses for the next twenty years and then adding a generous allowance of room for various practical purposes, such as receiving new books, convenience in handling, disposal by classes, the care of oversize books, temporary selections, special collections, and the accommodation of the unexpected. It should be borne in mind that all the books of the library are not to be in the stack, so that when the book capacity for the building as a whole has been fixed, the capacity of all the reading rooms and work rooms must be deducted from the total and the stack will then be planned to take care of the remainder.

It is a common rule, when the desired capacity of the stack has been named, to provide a foot of shelf space for every seven or eight books. Since it is possible for ten average books to stand in the space of a foot, this rule makes an allowance of one-fifth or three-tenths which is to be left empty. This margin is none too large. Indeed it may be questioned if it is large enough to meet the needs that are sure to arise. A safer rule, in the opinion of many, is to allow an average of one-third of every shelf to remain unused. The calculation can then be readily made by adding one-half to the total number of the books to show the desired capacity and then to reckon at ten books to the foot. This will be the same as six and two-thirds books

in the running foot. For example, a bookstack to hold 100,000 books should have a capacity of 150,000, at ten books to the foot.

When the total capacity is determined it must be distributed among the several floors or decks. In a building of one story there may be three of these decks—one below, one on the main floor and another in the open space between this and the ceiling. In a building of two stories there should be five levels in the stack. In the case supposed, with a capacity of 150,000, there will be, for each of five floors, an allotment of 30,000. Cases to provide for this number must now be furnished. If each case will hold 2000, the number of cases will be fifteen, the exact dimensions of which are known and these, or their equivalents, may be grouped at proper intervals. The width of aisles will vary from two and a half to four feet according to the use expected; the wider passage being needed in case of general public access. The cases or ranges being plotted in their places, space must be allowed for stairs, lifts, tables, desks, or other furniture and thus the size and shape of the floors of the stack room can be determined, subject, of course, to the conditions required to fit it to the rest of the building. Sometimes cases radiating from the delivery desk are found convenient in a book room, but, in a stack of several stories, the radial arrangement shows no advantages and would be more expensive to build.

A true stack rests upon its own foundation. Two stories of stack, however, may be carried upon a substantial floor supported by side walls. It is often found convenient in building a small library to put cases on the main floor for immediate use, providing a similar arrangement of cases in the basement beneath and to postpone the placing of the third story for books till the filling up of these two floors shall make the addition necessary.

In a public library it is desirable for ac-

cess and supervision that the ranges shall run from front to rear behind the delivery desk and be lighted at the back. In a large closed stack the cases may very properly stand at right angles with the line of approach, receiving light from windows on both sides in a room which may afterward be extended to the rear.

#### MATERIAL

It will be generally conceded that some kind of iron must be used for structural strength, for economy of space, for openness of construction promoting cleanliness and also for the sake of using non-combustible material. But there is sharp contention between the advocates of cast iron and sheet steel. It is claimed for cast iron uprights that they are at once solid and open; that they have no hollow chambers for gathering unwholesome dirt; that the castings are uniform and readily replaced; and that their pattern is such as to provide the most complete ventilation and light and opportunity for inspection. It is further noted that cast iron will resist rust and fire better than any form of wrought iron or steel. The castings are painted after being put in position and a better result is claimed also on that account. In reply to all this the rival makers say that cast iron is not only rough on the surface but liable to have concealed bubbles and blow-holes which endanger the strength of the structure at critical points, and that the roughness of it is unsightly, a collector of dirt and a damage to the bindings of the books.

When sheet steel is used for uprights it is first cut and enameled and then bent into a hollow flattened form showing numerous narrow slits to receive the sliding shelves or else, in the case of bracket shelving, there is a hollow post upon which the brackets are hooked. Either form of hollow chamber is charged with being the lurking place of much unsanitary dirt and, in some cases, in reply to this criticism, the stack builders pierce every upright with a half-inch hole through which a vacuum cleaner can suck out the last vestige of dust.

But, as the years pass, the arch enemy of a metal stack is rust, and the continuing

strength of a stack would be more certainly assured if there were no concealed surfaces open to insidious attack. So much can be said against either kind of metal upright that the purchaser may well feel compelled to make a choice of evils and is inclined to make his decision, not upon the merits of iron or steel, but mainly upon grounds of appearance and cost. It is to be noted, however, that the champions of cast iron do not hesitate to place wrought steel columns as the others do at the center of their cast uprights whenever four stories or more of book stack are required to be built.

Book shelves in a stack are usually of sheet steel, rolled at the edges for strength and enameled to provide a surface than which no better can be found. One stack, the one with the cast iron uprights, has a shelf of open hollow bars of enameled steel, very light, yet of ample strength. In some ways it is a very convenient shelf and admits the use of a simple and excellent book support which is caught between the bars. One of its most remarkable merits, as claimed, is that dust cannot lodge upon it to grind the bindings but that, with every movement of a book, dust will fall off. The case of the books below has scant recognition.

Wooden shelves are sometimes used with iron brackets, but a bracket shelf is generally made of a piece of enameled sheet steel turned up at each end in the form of a bracket with hooks at the back of each upright piece which catch into holes in the side of a square hollow post of steel or else with pins projecting from the side of each bracket to be caught by notches upon the post. The weight is thus carried by the brackets. The weak point is at the angle where the sheet is bent and is apt to bend again in handling and become difficult to adjust. A new form of shelf attempts to remedy this by scoring the sheet metal at this point with two deep grooves, thus stiffening it and fastening it at a true right angle. Unless the front edges of every bracket are made blunt and wide there is danger that books will be split or their leaves torn when carelessly thrust into their places.

## FIREPROOF BOOKSTACKS

It is too much to expect of a bookstack that it shall be proof against fire. It has been a habit, perhaps not wholly outgrown, of the makers of stacks to advertise them as "fireproof," "thoroughly fireproof," and "fireproof throughout." In past years, some have gone so far as to announce themselves as "specialists in fireproof stack construction."

The dictionary meaning of "fireproof" might perhaps justify this, for the definition is given as "of incombustible material," and an iron or steel bookstack is not likely to burn. But the popular and better definition includes protection against fire for the contents of the building.

The architects say that fireproofing requires not only incombustible material, but a "*fire-resisting design*." A bookstack is anything but that. It is in its nature of a fire-inviting design. Books are loosely spread along its shelves which stand at regular open intervals. If the design of the stack was intended to create a draft for flame and insure complete combustion of its contents, it could scarcely be better adapted to its purpose. When the whole framework is made open to admit light and promote cleanliness, the path for the fire is also made open. An open-barred shelf is about as fireproof as the grate bars of a furnace, and is much more likely to collapse and drop its load. It is possible that a bookstack might be made safer by dividing it into many closed compartments by metal partitions.

In some cases the bottom shelf of each tier, the "diaphragm shelf," is treated as a "fire stop" and the desk slit in front of it, while kept open for air, is covered with fine wire netting with fire protection in view. The serious menace of crossed electric wires still remains. In general we may say that in proportion as we follow the idea of open construction we are increasing the danger from fire. Real protection can be secured only at the price of eternal vigilance and a claim that any bookstack is fireproof is a delusion.

## ADJUSTABLE SHELVES

Shelves are adjusted in many different ways corresponding to the pattern on which

the stack is built. Cast iron uprights are cast with great projecting notches in front from the bottom to the top upon which the protruding horns at the side of the shelf may be laid while the back of the shelf is caught upon a hook at the rear and so made firm in its place. When hollow sheets of steel are used the sheets are cut by frequent slits into which the thin ends of the shelf may slide. The brackets catch upon their proper places by hooks that enter holes prepared in the sides of hollow posts, or else in notches or in the narrow projecting side of a solid post. At one time we heard of shelves that were "absolutely adjustable" which could be fastened at any desired height. This was done by brackets slipping in a groove and fastened by a set screw, or else by shelf ends slipping upon hanging metal bands and fastened by a screw wherever the librarian might wish. The theory was excellent but the practice was impossible because it required a machinist with a spirit level to produce an even appearance.

In the modern bookstack every shelf is movable, except, of course, the shelves at the bottom of each tier. The many ingenious devices for free and easy changes determine the character and appearance of the stack, for this one thing, the facility for adjustment, is counted essential both to the profits of the maker and the convenience of the librarian. Yet, sometimes, a question will occur to one who is impressed by the proportions of the stack question. Is it all worth while?

We walk through the long passages of an enormous stack with the rough, projecting, great iron teeth grinning upon us from every side, and wonder why it must be so? We ask the attendant how often the shelves are changed? He stares at us amazed. He doesn't remember. In fact, the vast majority of shelves have been exactly where they now are ever since the library was built. The only answer is that the call for change may come at any moment and we must be prepared. It is a huge and costly case of preparedness. But is it really impossible to look far enough ahead, to study the size of the books by their classes and to fix upon a plan for some parts of our col-

lection, such as fiction for example, according to which, if liberally provided for at the outset, they may stay in their places undisturbed and unadjusted? Can we not know beforehand of some stack territory which need never be changed? If this can be done those parts at least would have stronger, cheaper and better shelves than even these marvels of ingenuity.

But if it cannot be, because we must in some places, as in reading rooms, have adjustment ready to hand and because, perhaps, a new librarian will appear some day, who will want things done differently,

or because some like contingency may overtake us, can we not, at least, have invented for us some other mechanism of adjustment which, if not wholly concealed, will be less conspicuous, will not stare upon us with remorseless and obtrusive insistence and will not force upon us the impression that adjustment is the great purpose for which the library exists, the books being quite subordinate. In truth the libraries owe a debt of gratitude to inventor and manufacturer. They have tried to pay what they owe. But they are quite willing to be delivered from bondage.

## BOOKSTACKS: THE LIBRARIANS' VIEWPOINT

A RECORD OF EXPERIENCE AND OPINION FROM DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF THE COUNTRY

### *THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY*

THE New York Public Library has in its central building the Snead standard stack in the main stack room and in all special reading rooms except (1) about 7000 feet of metal shelving in the suite of six rooms at the southeast corner of the third floor, and (2) the main reading room, the Stuart room, and the central circulation room. In the main stack room are about 334,530 feet of Snead shelving and in the special reading rooms about 63,000 feet, a total of 397,530 feet.

The first exception noted above arose because the shelving plans of these rooms were not ready at the time the stack contract was let. This shelving was included in a later contract—for the interior finish—and the contract for its installation was given by the John Peirce Company, to which this contract was awarded, to the Jamestown Metal Company (now the Art Metal Furniture Company), as a sub-contractor. In a public contract no particular make of stack could be specified and the Peirce Company and the Snead Company could not agree as to price. The library would naturally have preferred uniform shelving. The problem was further complicated by the fact that doors were required for all shelving in these rooms, which apparently were not easily hung on the standard Snead stack.

The second exception was due to the feeling of the architects that wooden shelves in the main reading room, the Stuart room, and the central circulation room lent themselves to a better architectural treatment than steel shelving.

In the branch libraries the shelving is, in general, wooden. The Ottendorfer branch (built in 1884) has in the rear a two story steel stack with wooden shelves. The Yorkville branch—opened December 13, 1902, as first of the Carnegie buildings—has Art Metal Company steel shelving. The Chatham Square branch—opened November 2, 1903, as second of the Carnegie buildings—has Library Bureau steel frames with wooden shelves. In all the other branches wooden shelving is used entirely, its cost being much less than metal shelving, and its general appearance more pleasing. Steel shelving is undoubtedly best for stack storage of books, but with comparatively low wall shelving or free standing shelves wood has many advantages for reading rooms.

H. M. LYDENBERG,  
Chief Reference Librarian.

### *HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY*

It has been interesting and profitable to watch the construction of the stack in our new library, and to study its possibilities now that it is finished. The Snead stack

has been installed and we are well satisfied with the general result. Three points in which the construction differs from what has been done before deserve mention.

In the first place, except for a slight variation in the height of the successive stories, the construction is uniform throughout, whether the shelving is to be adapted to octavos, folios or newspapers, the result being that although the newspaper collection may be kept for many years in the place assigned to it on the plans, it is quite possible at any time to increase its extent there or to transfer it to any other part of the building. The same is true in regard to the shelving for octavos and folios.

The aisles are  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in width. The double rows of shelves between the aisles are 19 inches wide, but the solid bottom shelves are wider, increasing the stack width to 26 inches, and diminishing the aisle width on the floor from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shelves for octavos are 9 inches in width, but 12-inch shelves are also provided which fit equally well into the stack frame, but project 3 inches more into the aisle than the narrow shelves, making the aisle width about 26 inches, or about the same as the width of the floor space.

We had expected to concentrate our folios in certain sections or rows at the beginning of each subject group, and therefore required perfect liberty in assigning any row to books of one size or the other. Now that we are completing the distribution of our books, we are inclined to stretch our folios along the broad lower shelves and place the corresponding octavos over them; but here and there, as in Church History, Fine Arts and Music, the folios are too numerous to be accommodated on the lower shelves alone and two or more folio shelves in each section are used, so that we have not so much need for the 12-inch shelves as we expected to have. Those that we do use prove satisfactory, although when fully loaded with very large books they are a little bent in the middle, but the deflection is very slight. For newspapers and portfolios a special shelf with wider folios between the parallel bars is used, and the volume, lying on its side, runs through

from one face of the row to the opposite face of the next row. Some economy of space is sacrificed, because shelving designed especially for newspapers need not be 36 inches or more in width, but the advantage of uniform construction we think outweighs this.

The second point to be mentioned is the position of the opening for ventilation,—the deck slit, as the constructor calls it. In all previous stacks I believe this has been introduction into the *floor*, close up to the face of the shelves. In our stack it is transferred to the vertical *base* of the fixed lowest shelf, giving us a floor continuous from one face to the other, and preventing the loss of pencils, papers and even books through the opening. The purpose of the slit—ventilation and distribution of heat—seems to be equally well accomplished by the new arrangement. The base in which the opening is made is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height, and diminishes by so much the vertical space available for books, but it is not well for books to come clear to the floor, and the space is not entirely sacrificed since it helps out by so much the space available on the upper shelf of the deck below.

On the third point characteristic of the new Harvard stack, so much has already been said that it does not need to be further dwelt upon—I mean the provision of stalls around the outer edge of the stack for the use of readers. There are 300 of these stalls provided on six floors of the stack around three sides of the building. Each is well lighted, and will have a convenient, specially designed table, a comfortable Windsor chair and a hanging electric lamp adjustable as to height and position.

I have already referred to the varying heights of the stack stories. This variation is due, not to choice, but to the exigencies of the architecture. The lowest two stories have a clear 6 feet 10 inches from floor to ceiling, the next five, 7 feet 2 inches, while the top story, upon which the upper floor of the building rests, somehow manages to gain an additional two inches.

The teeth of the stack frame, upon which the shelves rest, are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches apart. Allowing for the base of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches and

for a slight lack of adaptation at top and bottom amounting to a fraction of an inch, we may say that the clear height of the three varieties is measured by 70, 73 and 75 points, respectively, meaning by point the inch and one-eighth adjustment provided for the shelving.

Having these three heights of story to work with, it has been interesting to consider which gives the best result, and whether a still better result might have been obtained by some slight modification of the dimensions. In a closely classified collection where it is necessary to be able to introduce new books at any point, shelving of standard height is essential,—shelving which will receive all books up to a certain height, larger books being placed on special folio or portfolio shelves. This standard may perhaps be modified in special classes, but uniformity, particularly at the beginning, contributes greatly to simplicity. A shelf of 11 points proves to be the best for general use here. This gives us a clear  $11\frac{1}{8}$  inches ( $11 \times 1\frac{1}{8} = 12\frac{3}{8} - \frac{3}{4} = 12\frac{1}{4}$ , the thickness of the shelf =  $11\frac{1}{8}$ ). This is a good shelf to hold all books 11 inches or under, but is just too low to take books of 30 cm., which is the usual upper limit for "large octavos," yet a 12-point shelf, which would give  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches clear, is unnecessarily high. Eighteen or twenty points is good for folios, 18 points giving  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches clear ( $18 \times 1\frac{1}{8} = 20\frac{1}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = 19\frac{1}{2}$ ) and 20 points giving  $21\frac{3}{4}$  inches clear. We find a good disposition for our purposes is one 18 or 20 point shelf below with five 11 point shelves in each section, making up the 73 or 75 points available in our upper six stories, but in the lower stories of 70 points we have to diminish either the folio shelves or the octavo shelves to get in the same number of shelves. Seven 11-point shelves, which we should often like to use, is also not practicable. Theoretically, one would expect to get seven 11-inch shelves in  $81\frac{1}{2}$  inches. On these floors we have  $82\frac{1}{2}$  and  $84\frac{1}{2}$  inches clear, and we expected before moving in to use seven octavo shelves to a section throughout a large part of the stack. But the measure of adjustment,  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches, does not happen to make the space fully available. This makes it interesting

to inquire whether a slightly different measure would have been better. If we were to adopt 1 1-16 inches for the measure of adjustment, and, for the clear height of the story, 85 inches, which is only  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches more than we now have on our five principal floors, we should get a somewhat better result. 85 inches permits 80 points of 1 1-16 in. each; 12 of these points between shelves give 12 inches clear ( $12 \times 1\frac{1}{16} = 12\frac{3}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = 12$ ), which easily covers a 30 cm. book; 20 points gives  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches clear, which takes a 20-inch or a 50 cm. book easily; 10 points gives  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches, which is a very little more than 25 cm., the usual dividing line between octavos and large octavos. The 80 points available would permit us to divide the space into four folio shelves of 20 points each; or one folio of 20, plus five large octavos of 12 points each; or eight shelves of 10 points each; or one folio shelf of 20 points, plus six shelves of 10 points. We could get seven 11-point shelves with 3 points to spare, but the clear height of the shelf would not take easily a full 11-inch book. One or another of these arrangements would suit well in the different divisions of the Library. In a class where few books fall between 25 cm. and 30 cm. in height, a 10-point shelf would be advisable, throwing what are usually called large octavos among the folio volumes; in other classes a 12-point shelf would be preferable, permitting everything up to 30 cm. to be kept in the main series. These considerations suggest that in planning a stack careful attention must be given to the mathematical details, and those dimensions should be adopted which give the best practical results.

WILLIAM COOLIDGE LANE, *Librarian.*

THE JOHN CRERAR LIBRARY

NEARLY all the 370,000 volumes of The John Crerar Library are shelved on stacks of four different types: the all wood cases advocated by Dr. Poole, adopted by The Newberry Library, and acquired with the medical collection from that institution; the older form, vintage of 1895, of Library Bureau "commercial" bracket stack with wooden shelves; the later form of the same stack, also with wooden shelves, and the

all steel bracket stack of the Art Metal Construction Company. There are also a few sections of the all steel Library Bureau "Parsons" bracket stack.

Besides these the library has installed for experimental purposes single tiers of several other makes, notably the Green (Snead) standard, the Art Metal standard, the Van Dorn bracket, the General Fire-proofing standard, the Stikeman bracket and two local makes. While the latter possess points of interest, they are not on the market, nor is the Stikeman, and the General Fireproofing stack does not fit our needs.

From our experience we draw the following conclusions:—

I. In a library of our character, the proportion of books too large for the regular shelves varies so greatly in the different subjects, even in closely related ones, that if any considerable rearrangements are to be possible, the stacks must permit the installation in each section of as many wide shelves as are needed, from one to all. This necessitates the use of either the bracket stack or a standard stack which will allow the use of projecting shelves as in the new Harvard library. It further determines the minimum distance between stack centers as four feet six inches.

II. That while the wooden shelves do not allow the thin books to slip as much as the steel shelves, we have found no confirmation of Dr. Poole's view that they are kinder to the books, and on the whole their advantages do not out-weigh the great disadvantage of placing so much combustible material in the stack room.

III. That an adjustment to one inch is usually all that is required, especially if space over the books on each shelf is to be allowed for dusting.

IV. That each of the types most used in libraries at the present time has its advantages but that these are not sufficiently marked to warrant any considerable difference in cost.

V. That if price is to be disregarded the Parsons stack seems to offer the greatest combination of advantages for our needs.

CLEMENT W. ANDREWS, *Librarian.*

#### THE THEORY OF BOOKSTACKS

At the present time there are many types and varieties of book-stacks on the market, from which, as his own time for building approaches, the librarian is required to choose; and this choice must satisfy not only himself, who considers mainly the question of convenience in the practical work of the library, but the architect as well, who studies the question from both the artistic and the engineering standpoints.

The most important requirements a book-stack must satisfy are those relating to its convenience for the regular work of the library staff and the library patrons. The primary object of a stack is to hold books and to hold them in such a way as best to serve the convenience of all the people who use them.

Next in importance are the questions of safety, both of the books themselves and of the people using them.

Then comes the question of artistic appearance; and this is put last because, if the stack meets the other requirements, but fails to satisfy the architect's ideals, he can either disguise it or hide it behind something that does satisfy him.

From the standpoint of convenience the important requirements are as follows:

First: The height of the cases should be such that a reasonably tall person would be in no danger of striking his head against the cross braces and a person of ordinary stature be able to reach any book without leaving the floor.

Second: Space within the limits of the main stack is expensive and all of it not absolutely needed to insure safety and to allow access should be available for the storage of books. The passage ways of the stack should be as narrow as the proper handling of the books will allow, and books in constant use should be shelved in wall cases or floor cases in the rooms in which they are most used, so far as an orderly arrangement will warrant, and not in the stack where crowds cannot be conveniently handled. The width of the double-faced rows, taken in connection with the width of the passage ways between them, is of great importance. If these widths can be so

economized that the rows space but a shade over 46 inches between centers one can place 26 rows of cases in every 100 feet of stack. Much room is often wasted between the different cases in the row, and valuable book room is always wasted between the top shelves of each story of the stack and the bottom shelves of the story next above. Careless planning and inadequate construction in regard to these three points often mean a loss of one-fifth of the possible capacity of the stack.

Third: The design of the stack should allow the shelves to be interchangeable throughout the entire library, so that but one type of shelf need be kept in stock.

Fourth: The design should allow the shelves, with the books on them, to be easily adjusted to height in the cases and as readily moved from one case to another or to any part of the library. A shelf of books should be a unit, to be placed or replaced wherever most needed.

Fifth: The stack should accommodate any ordinary width of shelf and any desired spacing between shelves wherever the convenience of the library indicates.

In order to insure the safety of the books the stack should meet several other requirements:

First: It should be as nearly fireproof as possible. Books are slow burning, and the stack should contain no inflammable material, nor any non-burning material so punctured as to allow the fire to run up through the shelves. An effectual fire-stop should be introduced between all the stories of the stack so far as that can be accomplished without interfering with proper ventilation.

Second: So far as it can be accomplished without unduly increasing the fire-risk, the stack should be open to the free circulation of air, dry air preferably, pure air certainly. It should be protected from direct sunlight, and recent authorities are inclined to discourage daylight as well.

To fully insure the safety of the people using the stack there are many important requirements, fully as important, perhaps, as those pertaining to library convenience:

First: The structure must be strong enough to sustain its maximum load with

plenty of margin for safety. If the stack is built of mild steel, as most stacks are, its greatest load should not subject that material to more than a 16,000 pounds fibre strain, which is considered the limit of absolute safety. If the material is cast iron half that strain is the limit. The upright posts of a stack, the posts that sustain the weight of the books on the shelves between them, and of all the other posts, books, and passage ways above them, are struts, or columns, in engineering language, and their ability to support a superimposed weight is not measured by the resistance of that amount of steel against crushing, but by the resistance the smallest diameter of the column would offer against bending near the center, which is quite a different matter.

Second: The structure must be absolutely rigid against sway in any direction. This sway to be resisted is not confined to that caused by unequal loading, nor to the pushing the individual cases might be subjected to by heavy bodies falling against them; as explained above, the ability of a column to sustain weight is measured by its strength against bending; a tall stack is composed of a number of separate posts joined end to end, each post carrying a heavy load of books. If each joint is not adequately braced the combined column will bend, or sway, at the weak place and the whole structure collapse. It will thus be seen that the rigidity of a stack is fully as important as its strength; in fact, its strength lies in its rigidity.

Third: The structure must not only be strong, but it must be so built as to remain strong. Parts subject to wear must be attached in such a way that they can be replaced. Parts liable to rust should be exposed in such a way that the rust may be detected and the part painted. Theoretically enamelled steel will never rust. The theory is perfect, but one cannot say the same for the ordinary shop practice.

Whether or not all these requirements are met by any stack now on the market, or likely to be offered for some years to come, is not a question affecting the validity of the requirements, which are founded upon good library, and good engineering, practice.

WILLIAM ALANSON BORDEN.

*QUESTIONS OF COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE*

Of all the difficulties which beset library workers, none presents more obstinate perversity than those which respond only to physical laws. Human opposition can be combated through education and zeal, the inert mass of books in a library has been made to yield up its treasures through the librarian's technical skill, but the metal skeleton of the stacks which carry these books refuses to be flexible and rigid at the same time. It is the desire to compel this combination which causes trouble.

In addition to questions of a stack's proper location and general arrangement, it would seem that the time had come when comfort and convenience in a stack might also be considered.

For several years, library architects have been placing the stacks in a less valuable location in the library building than along the outside wall, since all the natural light possible should be received for reading rooms. This has been possible through the development of artificial lighting which has robbed an inside or under-floor location for the stack of its terrors.

Since natural light is no longer necessary in many stacks, why continue to use glass floors in book stacks? In an artificially lighted stack, they are without excuse. In the first place, glass floors are exceedingly noisy and few students at work in the stack can withstand this annoyance. Also, they are so slippery as to be unsafe, and frequently cork carpet or rubber mats have to be placed at the top of steps and at other dangerous places on the glass floors. If sunlight reaches these glass floors in the stack, the reflected glare is most trying. Then too, they crack either through expansion or contraction, or else because a metal shelf has fallen on them. Another disadvantage of glass floors, in a dry climate at least, comes from the putty used along the joints and edges. This soon dries out and is loosened by the constant walking on the floor. The result is that not only are the books and floors constantly powdered with putty dust, but small putty fragments have a penchant for dropping down the necks and into the eyes of readers and workers in the stacks.

There are many composition materials on the market, any one of which would seem to be desirable for stack floors where translucency was unnecessary. Not only do they have strength and quietness, but some of them lack weight as well, which in itself is desirable. Damages to such material are much more easily repaired than to glass floors.

The usual design for stack floors shows openings three or four inches wide between the glass floors and the book stacks themselves, which extend along the entire length of the stack. Doubtless these openings are designed for heating and ventilating purposes, but as placed at present, they have decided disadvantages, especially in book stacks open to the public. It is a frequent occurrence for readers and attendants to drop books or book cards through these openings, which means a descent of many steps and a search for the missing article. These openings are edged with a raised metal flange which holds the glass floor slabs in place. In stacks open to the public, it is quite usual to see some reader skimming through a book while in the meantime he unconsciously uses the projecting metal flange as a boot scraper. The result is that books and shelves underneath are covered with mud and litter from above. It is sometimes necessary in public stacks to have these openings covered to protect the books below. If, in addition to the stairways in the stacks, it is still necessary to have these openings in the stack floors for heat and ventilation, it would seem preferable to have them at the end of the cases instead of extending lengthwise with the stacks.

Some few difficulties are apparent in the book shelves also, the remedying of which would be gratefully received. If shelves fit in tightly, they are difficult to adjust. If loosely fitted, they are liable to be knocked out. Those that fit loosely also have a disadvantage in that they leave a small opening between the shelf's end and the uprights. With nothing to support the book covers over these cracks, bindings on heavy books are strained.

Why cannot a book shelf be devised to be attached to the uprights by means of

one hook at each end? If such shelves were made with closed ends to keep the books from falling out, the entire shelf of books could then be easily carried about the stack and adjusted wherever desired.

Another improvement would be a book support that could not fall from the shelf and that could not be slid about or toppled over by heavy books, as now happens with supports on polished metal shelves.

A small device that would save many steps to the catalog or the Dewey decimal

classification book, would be a frame placed at the end of a book case on each stack floor, to hold a chart or key to the first one hundred or so sub-divisions of the classification system. Unless one constantly works with the classification system, its sub-divisions are easily forgotten and frequent trips from the stacks to the catalog are made necessary. Such a metal frame to hold a classification chart would be a convenience.

CHALMERS HADLEY.

## LIBRARY EQUIPMENT AND LABOR-SAVING DEVICES

By C. SEYMOUR THOMPSON, *Assistant Librarian, Public Library, Washington, D. C.*

A LITTLE more than a year ago the librarians of the country were requested to contribute to the A. L. A. committee on library administration all the information they possessed concerning library equipment and labor-saving appliances. It was a large request, but approximately 20 per cent of the librarians who received it have responded in a most gratifying spirit of co-operation. It is earnestly hoped (and believed) that it need not be inferred that the 80 per cent who did not respond are without interest in the investigation which the committee has been conducting. Some forgot to reply, others could not take the necessary time, and some mistakenly thought that there was nothing which they could contribute, but it is believed that there were few who were unwilling or entirely without interest.

To all, therefore, the committee wants the results of its investigation to be of value. The work is now sufficiently advanced to justify a prediction that within a few months some definite results may be made accessible to all who want them. Before the end of the present year, certainly, librarians will again be invited to co-operate; not, this time, by contributing information, but by allowing the committee to pass on to them all the information which it has been able to gather. The questionnaire of last year was a success because as many as 20 per cent of those who received it replied, but it is hoped that a far greater number will respond to the next appeal.

The writer therefore wishes to offer a brief explanation of the work which has already been done, of the plans for making the results of the work valuable to the greatest possible number, and of the nature of the co-operation which is still needed. First, however, it may not be out of place to give a brief review of the general question of mechanical appliances in library work.

From the earliest days of the organized library movement considerable attention has naturally—or necessarily—been given to questions of suitable equipment and useful mechanical devices. The relation of the Library Bureau to the early history of the American Library Association, and the attention given by Mr. Dewey to matters of equipment as well as of method, are too well known to require comment. At the first conference of librarians, in 1853, various forms of tables, step-ladder chairs, and book-rests were exhibited by one of the librarian delegates. Similar informal exhibitions have been made by manufacturers, with the consent but not under the auspices of the association, at many of the A. L. A. conferences. In 1914 was held the first exhibition on a comprehensive scale, and the first which was planned and held under the auspices of the association. Plans are now being made for a similar exhibit at the Asbury Park conference, of which more detailed announcement will be made in the next issue of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Among early attempts to bring mechan-

ical devices to the aid of the librarian, one of the most interesting is the method adopted by William F. Poole in compiling statistics of daily circulation. As described by Dr. Poole in the 1876 Report issued by the Bureau of Education (p. 503), "the plan is to have a tin box made 16 inches long, 3 inches wide, and 3 inches high, divided into eight compartments, seven of which have a funnel-shaped cover; and the eighth, which is larger than the others, is an open receptacle for peas. The seven have these inscriptions on the front: Fiction and Juveniles; History and Biography; Voyages and Travels; Science and Art; Poetry and Drama; German and French Literature; Miscellaneous. As each book is delivered, the attendant drops a pea into such compartment as the book properly belongs to in its classification. There is a slide in each compartment on the back side of the box, by which the peas are let out. At night they are counted, and a record of each classification is kept."

Possibly Dr. Poole's device (strikingly similar in fundamental purpose to the "telephone counters" now used in a few libraries in registering circulation) may have met with ridicule from some of the contemporary librarians, as it certainly would to-day from not a few. For there is by no means universal agreement concerning the amount of attention which should be given to labor-saving devices. There are few paths along which it is not possible to travel so far that it becomes advisable to turn and go back, and many librarians believe that we have gone too far along the paths supposed to lead to efficiency. The very word "efficiency," so often overworked and misused, has caused many to groan in despair. Some of the protests against over-emphasis on mechanical appliances are so important, if well-founded, that they should receive careful consideration.

At the London International Conference of 1897 Mr. MacAlister, speaking of "Some tendencies of modern librarianship," said "A librarian who wants to distinguish himself is driven to mechanical inventions, designed to save either the time of himself or his readers. My critics will tell you that the more time-saving apparatus is

used the more time the librarian will have to cultivate his intellect and discourse with his readers on the beauties of Browning or of Byron. But is the time saved by mechanism used in this excellent way? I am afraid not. The taste for such things grows on what it feeds, and the librarian who has invented an appliance for supplying his readers with the books . . . by means of an automatic ticket-in-the-slot machine will not be happy, or spend any time in reading Browning, until he has invented one which will, by the touching of a button, shoot the book into the reader's home, and so save for the busy librarian the time lost in opening the library door. . . . If a new machine comes to be wanted very badly, it will be produced; but let us wait for an imperative demand, instead of cogitating how we can, by clipping off the corner of a card, or sticking in a new pin, or even by calling an old spade an agricultural implement, secure fame for ourselves as original inventors." (2nd International Conference, Proceedings, p. 10-11.)

These sentiments were echoed in 1898 by Mr. Jast. "A hindrance to library progress is to be found, it seems to me, in the great prominence given at the present time to the subject of mechanical appliances for libraries. . . . The amount of time and attention that is now bestowed upon this side of library work, to the inevitable detriment of its higher and nobler sides, is astonishing and lamentable. Now there is a subtle and fell fascination about these things, which if once allowed full play becomes a positive disease. It may begin quite innocently in the purchase of some book-supports; these you discover scratch the shelves, so you get others which take up too much room; from a book-support to an automatic step—well, is only a step; then you get a dictionary holder, and a dusting machine, and all kinds of binders, and various card outfits; and the fascination grows with what it feeds on, until the funds of the library, and time and thought of the librarian, are frittered away in the pursuit of these mechanical accessories. I have nothing to say against these things in themselves; it is a question of perspective with which I am concerned; I want them

put into the background of librarianship, which is their proper place, and not in the very foreground, where they have no business." (*Library Association Record*, v. 2, p. 83-84.)

Without inquiring closely into the conditions prevailing eighteen years ago in English libraries, we cannot help suggesting that, in painting these forbidding portraits of the mechanically-crazed librarian, Mr. MacAlister and Mr. Jast were allowing their imaginations to "grow with what they fed on." Hyperbole and sarcasm are often amusing, but seldom convincing. But their views are held, at least in part, by some librarians to-day. One of the best known American librarians recently wrote: "Many of the so-called labor saving devices would not be labor saving in a library outside of the city of New York. Among the useless methods for libraries I would include adding machines, addressing machines, billing machines, book typewriters, cash registers, copying machines, dictating machines, folding machines, mail openers, printing presses, sealing machines, and stamp affixing machines. There may be others. A lot of nervous energy is wasted in consideration of such devices, which are really not needed in even the largest public libraries, with possibly one exception." And still more recently we have been entertained by a serio-comic controversy over the relative merits of various paper clips, with mock depreciation of "poetry, and other minor literary matters" as compared with "those larger fields of efficiency and equipment, which are of such real importance to the librarian," and in which co-operation is necessary in order that we may "achieve the educational ideal, and make the library the true university of the people."

Unquestionably, it would be deplorable if the "higher and nobler" sides of librarianship were relegated to the background in the pursuit of new and improved mechanical appliances. But it is decidedly questionable whether anyone could cite any library in which such a state of affairs has existed. Both time and money have been wasted in many libraries in the purchase of equipment which was either unnecessary or poorly adapted to the purposes for which it was

purchased. But it is also true that many libraries, without undue expenditure of time or money, could improve their present methods by the wise purchase of certain apparatus. The unwise expenditure of time and money does not furnish an indictment of all time and labor saving appliances. It is, rather, an indication of the difficulties surrounding the librarian in every effort to purchase the equipment which he needs and to refrain from buying that which is not needed or is not well adapted to his work.

To relieve librarians so far as possible from these difficulties is the present aim of the committee on library administration, and with this purpose it is endeavoring to bring co-operation to bear on all problems of equipment and mechanical appliances. It ought to be, and we believe it is, easily possible to obtain book supports which neither scratch the shelves nor take up too much room, and to have the necessary binders, card outfits, and many other mechanical accessories, including even the most satisfactory paper clips, without subordinating the library's true functions. But in order to make this most easily possible co-operation is needed, not that through the efficiency of our office appliances we may achieve the educational ideal, but that each librarian may have the equipment best suited to the business needs of his institution without devoting to their acquisition attention and energy and money which might better be expended on its professional needs.

To some extent standardization of certain kinds of library equipment has been possible. But in most questions of equipment, as of method, so much depends on the size and nature of the library or on various local conditions that no effort to effect complete standardization could be successful. Equipment which is an absolute necessity in one library might, in another, be an unjustifiable luxury, and that which saves time for one might, for another, be a source of nothing but annoyance. But there are a number of well-established principles which, interpreted in the light of local conditions, may serve as a useful guide. A brief statement of some of these principles, well-known and perhaps axiomatic as they are,

may aid in explaining both the need of co-operation and the nature of the co-operation which is desired.

There are some appliances and some kinds of equipment which are indispensable in all libraries, or which can be dispensed with in so few that their use may be considered an almost universal necessity. Most important of these is the typewriter. Many others might be mentioned, such as inkpads, inkwells, floor covering, book supports, and paper clips. With reference to such equipment, questions concerning the desirability of purchase may be eliminated, and the librarian has only to decide which of the available forms is best adapted to his purposes. Obviously, the importance of the decision varies with the importance of the article under consideration. The purchase of an inferior typewriter, for example, would be a more serious matter than the purchase of unsatisfactory inkpads. Many librarians can testify, however, to the unsatisfactory results which follow the purchase of inferior inkpads, and it seems almost self-evident that in the purchase of all equipment, however slight its relative importance, care should be taken to get the best.

The effort to decide on the best involves consideration of the following points: (1) durability; (2) ease of operation or convenience of use; (3) quality of work produced or attractiveness of appearance; (4) cost. In individual cases there may be others, but these are the fundamental points, some or all of which must in all cases enter into consideration. The question of cost we place last, for in very few cases, unless the competing articles are equal or nearly equal in all other respects, should the cost be the determining factor. Financial conditions may make it necessary to give chief consideration to cost, but in such cases it is seldom that the best can be obtained,—although the cheapest may, of course, be also the best; it is rather a question of obtaining the best which can be purchased with the money available. The question of cost, too, is usually relative, to be considered in connection with durability or other points.

A second class of equipment includes

many devices which are not now used in as many libraries as could, we think, use them to excellent advantage. Of the libraries heard from, only a very few report having used any pencil sharpeners or any moistening devices. Here are two very simple appliances, which can be obtained at trifling expense, which might be used to good advantage in practically every library in the country, provided care is taken to get the best. The same could be said of many other devices, now little used, by which the routine business functions of the library could be more satisfactorily performed at no expense to the professional and educational functions.

A third class includes adding machines, addressing machines, billing machines, folding and sealing machines, and many other devices which would be entirely or nearly useless in many libraries but are of great importance in others. Such equipment is sometimes purchased where it is not needed, and sometimes (what is nearly as unfortunate) is overlooked in other libraries where it could be of value. In considering equipment of this kind, before attempting to decide which of various competing firms offers the best, the following questions should be answered concerning that class of equipment in general. Will it save time, by enabling us to do certain work more quickly? Will it save money, by enabling us to do it more cheaply? Will it conserve mental or physical strength, by enabling us to do it more easily? Will it promote accuracy, thereby eliminating expensive and aggravating errors? Will it promote neatness and uniformity, thereby making a better impression on those who use the library? And finally, will the gain along any or all of these lines be sufficient to justify the cost of purchase and upkeep?

This last question is the most important of all, and the one most easily overlooked. All statements concerning the value of any device must presuppose a sufficient amount of work to keep it profitably employed, and also the intelligent use of it for those purposes, and only those purposes, for which it is designed. A page who waits for the elevator and a book-truck to carry six books up two stack floors is not making

either the elevator or the truck a paying investment. A typewriter would be a poor investment if it were used only one or two days a month. An adding machine insures against inaccuracy, but it does not follow that all libraries have enough mathematical calculations to perform to make an adding machine desirable. A manifolding machine is not profitable when it would be quicker to typewrite or cheaper to print, or if the occasions when it can be profitably used are very infrequent. All matters of cost and saving, and all considerations of what is the best, are relative questions, the answers to which must depend very largely on local conditions governing not only the library's financial resources but also the volume of work for which the device under consideration could be profitably used.

It must also be kept in mind that in library use very few devices are capable of effecting a *direct* saving of money. A manifolding machine may do so, in comparison with what the cost of printing would otherwise be; a non-evaporating inkwell may effect a slight saving in the purchase of ink; in a very large library an addressing machine may, perhaps, save the salary of a stenographer or typist. But in general it is possible to save money only indirectly through a saving of time or strength or through eliminating mistakes. With this qualification, it will be seen that a few devices meet all the conditions named above, and others meet only some of them. The typewriter, the oldest and best-known labor-saver, saves both time and strength, and promotes both accuracy and neatness. The adding machine may save time and strength, and promotes accuracy. The dictating machine saves time. The manifolding machine saves time when substituted for the typewriter, and saves money when it avoids a printer's bill for work which can just as well be manifolded. Once more it may be emphasized that each librarian must decide for himself, considering both his finances and his work, how much saving of any kind an appliance could effect, and how important, relatively, such saving would be.

By what methods can a wise decision on all these questions be reached, and the

selection of what seems the best be made? The easiest course is along the line of least resistance, and this line is too often pointed out by the persuasive salesman of an inferior article. Even with the salesman eliminated, decision is often difficult. Much correspondence and preliminary investigation may be necessary in order to get in touch with all the competing devices which should receive consideration. The librarian may then devote a large amount of time to examining and testing these devices. He may also, or as an alternative, endeavor to obtain the advice of others who may have had experience with such devices. Either method is costly, and leads to results of uncertain value. How easily, for example, can *you*, by personal investigation, arrive at an intelligent conclusion concerning the merits of the leading typewriters? How easily can you obtain satisfactory statements from other librarians, on which you can base your choice of a typewriter or a manifolding machine or a vacuum cleaner? Would it not be easier to decide on all such questions if you had convenient access to an up-to-date statement, framed after careful investigation and much correspondence, giving the essential facts on which your decision should be based?

A manual containing such statements will be ready for distribution, it is confidently expected, before the close of the present year. In the past year information has been sent to 40 librarians concerning 29 kinds of equipment, and the committee on administration, acting permanently as a clearing house of information (or, in line with Mr. Lee's idea, a "sponsor for knowledge"), will continue to send to librarians, on request, the best and latest information it can obtain on all questions of equipment and mechanical devices. But more than this is necessary if the results of the investigation are to be as far-reaching as the committee wishes. If the librarian wants to strengthen his book collection on any subject, he can very readily obtain reliable information to guide him in his decision. The committee wishes to make it as easily possible for him to secure helpful information which will

facilitate wise decisions on the purchase of all library equipment and appliances.

In the proposed manual will be given the best obtainable information of this nature. In order that it may always be up to date the manual will be issued either in loose-leaf form or as a pamphlet which can be readily revised whenever necessary. If the loose-leaf form is adopted new sheets will be issued whenever necessary, after the first sheets have been distributed, either to replace earlier sheets or to supplement them. If the pamphlet form is adopted the arrangement will be such that the entire manual can be issued in a revised edition whenever it is desired to make important changes or additions. To keep the work more strictly up to date, new information on any specific subjects will be sent as often as received, in advance of the revision of the manual, to all subscribers who signify a special interest in those subjects.

The subscription price of this manual cannot be stated definitely until the work of preparation is further advanced. It will depend to some extent, too, on the number of subscribers. The committee's present estimate, which is, however, subject

to some revision, is \$1.00 if not less than 200 subscribers are received. The subscription price will entitle subscribers to the complete manual as first issued, and to all subsequent revisions for at least one year following the first publication. Thereafter, the annual cost to each subscriber would not be more than a few cents. Subscribers will also be invited to file with the committee lists of any equipment, as indicated above, concerning which they are especially interested in having the most complete information available for reference at all times.

Subscriptions will be invited by the secretary of the A. L. A. as soon as the preparation of the manual is completed and the cost is definitely known. In the meantime, advance subscriptions will be welcomed as a partial indication of the support which may be expected. Those who wish to encourage the efforts to make this work a success, will therefore aid very materially by writing at once to the association's secretary, expressing their willingness to subscribe at a price not to exceed \$2.00, with the understanding that the price will probably be considerably less than that amount.

## FICTION AS REFERENCE MATERIAL\*

BY ELLA B. COOK, *Reference Librarian, Trenton, New Jersey, Public Library*

### THE SEQUEL

IT would be cruel indeed, after such a pleasant sojourn in this imaginary land of books, to drop you suddenly into a practical world. That is why I shall attempt, though in far less vivid fashion, to prolong your stay by showing the results of the books' successful pleadings.

So many won their cases that there was consternation in the reference department on the day when they were supposed to arrive in their new quarters. The shelves were over-crowded, tables, chairs, trucks were loaded, all with volumes and volumes of fiction to be used in reference work. There was nothing for it but to enlarge the room.

\*This paper immediately followed the one by Miss McClelland (printed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for March) at the meeting of the New Jersey Library Association at Atlantic City, March 3, 1916.

But what is the use of a room full of books about language and lawsuits, persons and places, nature and science, no matter how thoroughly sugar-coated, if one cannot find the information in a reasonable time?

Unfortunately, patience being a virtue, it is of slow growth. Consequently the people demanded greater service and the reference librarian more tools and more assistants, so that now the reference department has at least five trained women, an incredible number. And the tools have grown in the shape of an immense catalog, brilliant with subject headings and analyticals. The staff of catalogers rose up in revolt, but no matter, the public must be served, the books must be pacified. Like all ambitious people the more they had the more they wanted, so, not satisfied with being let into the department as reference

material, each volume of fiction demanded that its every page be examined and made the subject of an analytical.

There were descriptions of castles and costumes, of knights and ladies, of table manners in the Middle Ages, of customs in Egypt and America, of witchcraft and inquisition, of houses and scenery and people. Nothing was omitted.

"Graustark" demanded to be given a card on the teaching of etiquette! "Quo vadis" called loudly for a place under bull-fights. "Les misérables" must have a heading for the battle of Waterloo. "Romola" demanded that Savonarola's sermon be "brought out."

Fortunately the Wilson Company came to the rescue by publishing a "Readers' guide to current fiction," arranged somewhat after the plan of the periodical index and appearing at similar intervals. The joy of the public knew no bounds. Even club-women could use the index and were able to find their own material. The sole excuse for the librarian's superior knowledge was the creation of atmosphere.

By this time study in the reference department had become such a delightful pastime, that advertising posters, street car signs, bulletins, and the like, were no longer necessary. Statistics grew by leaps and bounds. Whole clubs begged to be invited to study in such an attractive place. The library's praises were sung everywhere. It was not long before the library became the leading institution in the community, and all because a few hundred volumes of fiction clamored to be used as reference material!

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Seriously, there are three questions which suggest themselves as soon as one tries to think how fiction can be used as reference material.

1. What are meant by the terms reference material and reference work?

2. What fiction shall be used? Shall all classes of fiction take their places in the reference department, or shall some kinds be omitted? How shall we determine what shall be used and what rejected?

3. If fiction is used as reference material, how will its use affect the reference department, other departments, and the public?

1. Every librarian knows what is meant by reference material, but for clearness let us say that it is information about any subject in the entire range of human knowledge, that the information must be true, that it must be clearly and generally concisely stated, and that it must be accessible, either through its own position in the book, or by means of catalogs and indexes. If in addition it has literary style, well and good. I have omitted supplementary reading and am dealing with the subject only in its narrower sense. Reference work is, briefly, finding the information.

Fiction has nothing inherent in its own nature which can be called reference material in the generally accepted sense of that term. Of course it can be so used, but in order to use it, our definition must be enlarged to include works of fancy as well as fact, and in the definition of reference work "finding the information" we must put the emphasis upon "finding," rather than upon "information."

2. Having enlarged our definition to include fiction, what shall determine our selection?

Suppose there is accurate information about ginseng in "The harvester," shall that book be used in the reference department? Shall we include Oppenheim and McCutcheon because court life and society manners are described? Will "The secret garden" suffice for a treatise on robins and spoiled little girls, and "The girl of the Limberlost" for one on moths? Or when fiction is to be used for serious study must we not have a higher standard for choice than when it is used merely for pleasure to be cast aside and forgotten in a short time? Obviously we must use it because it is artistic, not primarily for its information. Many examples from the better class of fiction will occur to you. I shall mention only a few.

There is a class of fiction containing sketches of famous men and women, such as Savonarola in "Romola," Washington in "The Virginians," Nero in "Quo vadis," Richard and Saladin in "The talisman," Mary Queen of Scots in "The queen's quair" and in Charlotte Yonge's "Unknown to history," Oliver Goldsmith in Moore's

"Jessamy bride," Alexander Hamilton in "The conqueror," Eleanor of Aquitaine in "Via crucis."

In these and many others there are descriptive passages which might well be made available for reference use, such as the plague and famine in Manzoni's "Betrothed," the battle of Waterloo in Hugo's "Les Misérables," the storming of the Bastille in Dickens' "Tale of two cities." Others might be cited, but we must hurry on to the next point.

3. How will the use of fiction affect other parts of the library and the public?

It is impossible to think of the question "How to use fiction as reference material" without thinking of its effect upon the whole. That is, will it work, and how?

We may agree that much fiction contains reference material, whether we use it for its beauty or its facts. That is not sufficient. It must be made available. There are but two ways to accomplish that end, one through the librarian and her assistants, the other through catalogs and indexes. It would be very delightful to go to a library where the reference librarian and her assistants were able to select the novels containing just the information desired, but catalogs and indexes are still in fashion.

Not only subject headings but analyticals as well will be necessary to bring out the choice bits. To spare the catalogers, analyticals could be made in the reference department. Members of the staff and intelligent readers might be asked to jot down useful passages as they read. Warner's "Synopsis of books" could be used when time was too short for more thorough work. Brewer's and other literary handbooks give suggestions for suitable selections. Some of the rhetorics and books of prose selections contain passages which might be brought out. To save time and expense these could be copied upon spoiled catalog cards and filed in the reference catalog of miscellaneous notes.

Having chosen a selected list of standard fiction and having made it accessible by means of subject headings and analyticals, what is the next step? If the reference department is a separate department in a different room, and if certain works of fic-

tion are to be used as reference material, they must be shelved in that room if they are to be really useful and if we are to keep to our question. If they must remain in the other department, whether it is called the circulation department or fiction department, and used there for reference, our question must be changed from "How to use fiction as reference material" to "What reference work shall be done in the fiction department?"

Finally, whichever way we interpret the question what will be the effect of the use of fiction as reference material upon the public? Several years ago there was much talk of the ruinous effect of teaching poetry by requiring the student to analyze every part. Is there any danger that the student will develop a distaste for fiction if we analyze it for him and require him to read this bit of exposition or that paragraph of description? Perhaps at last we have discovered a way to decrease the circulation of fiction!

Suppose, on the other hand, this serious study of fiction sharpens his taste, making him a keener judge of excellence in style. Will he then become more discriminating in his choice of non-fiction, possibly creating a demand for improved literary quality in our books of travel, biography and history?

The benefits to be derived from any very general use of fiction as reference material scarcely compensate for the time, labor and expense necessary to make so much material available. If fiction is to be used, let it be only the best, included gradually, added slowly and selected with discrimination, because it is honestly believed to contain the best material upon the given subject. Why spoil a work of art, such as is found in fiction, by trying to make it useful? Has it not a far higher and more legitimate use in its own field? If we use it because it is beautiful, well and good, but we shall be compelled to change our conception of reference work.

Books should to one of these four ends conduce,  
For wisdom, piety, delight, or use.

—SIR JOHN DENHAM.

### BOOKSTACKS AS DESCRIBED BY THEIR MANUFACTURERS

THE following descriptions of the better known models of library bookstacks have been prepared by their respective manufacturers, to each of whom the same request was sent. An effort has been made to confine each to a concise descriptive statement of the principal points of construction, leaving the librarian to make his own comparisons and draw his own conclusions.

#### LIBRARY BUREAU BOOK SHELVING

LIBRARY BUREAU quartered oak unit shelving in wall and double freestanding type is designed for reading, reference, periodical and open shelf rooms, and is used frequently in stack rooms where a single story height only is required. This shelving is supplied in children's height 4 feet 6 inches, and in adults' height 6 feet 10 inches, both being made in 8 and 10-inch depth of shelf. Where used for magazines, newspapers, etc., 12-inch depth shelving is supplied, furnished with sloping shelves of different depths for current magazines and storage cupboards for old or reserve copies, and with racks to receive newspaper files.

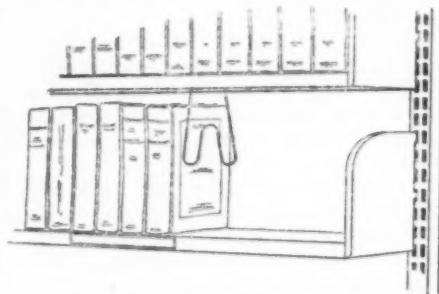


The section may be fitted with removable hinged bulletin boards when desired. This shelving is built throughout on the unit or sectional principle; the unit or section is 3 feet wide on centers, and the initial unit, complete with ends, is the basis of a range of any length. The component parts of

Library Bureau unit wood shelving are paneled end uprights, plain intermediate uprights with base, cornice and shelves for each section. All shelves are adjustable, and the front of each shelf is grooved to receive labels without the use of a label holder.

#### BRACKET STEEL STACK

The bracket type of bookstack in use in a very large number of libraries is the most

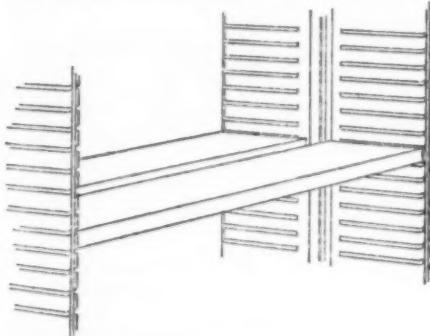


practical form for either single-story or multi-story installations. Its supporting steel uprights are 2-inch square tubes, formed of heavy-gauge steel, and minimize the obstruction to light and air; and as the upright has an inner reinforcement for multi-story installations, the same form of upright is used up to ten stories in height. The shelves are formed of cold-rolled plate steel, with square-turned edges which form a 3-angle truss, producing the strongest and most rigid shelf possible. The shelves are made with a solid surface so that dust cannot pass through to the top of books underneath, and also to give a perfectly even surface for the books to rest on, preventing the abrasion of book bindings. The brackets, which are of plate construction and attached to the shelf without bolts or screws, are fitted with adjustment hook at the top which fastens into the rectangular holes punched in the stack upright. A safety lug locking into the same series of holes prevents accidental dislodgment of the shelf. The standard book shelves are made in 8-inch, 10-inch and 12-inch depths. Special shelves of extra heavy construction, 18 inches deep, with inverted brackets for close adjustment, are furnished for bound newspapers or folios which must lie flat. All

shelves are adjustable on inch centers and are interchangeable. One distinct advantage of the bracket type of stack is the fact that shelves of varying depth may be used interchangeably in the same section.

#### SLOTTED STEEL STACK

Another form of steel bookstack is the slotted upright type with U-shaped uprights or supporting columns of cold-rolled plate steel, reinforced with inner steel bars and tees. These uprights are slotted front



to back on inch centers to receive the shelves which are of the same construction as for the bracket stack, but finished with notched projecting ends which engage in the slots in the stack uprights. This type of stack is furnished in single and multi-story installations commonly with the 8-inch depth of shelf. All stack is finished in baked enamel of olive-green color, furnishing a smooth, even surface at all points. Special colors of enamel are furnished where desired.

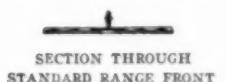
#### SNEAD STANDARD STACK

THIS work is generally built to order to meet the particular requirements of each building, economy being secured by using standardized manufacturing methods, dies, fixtures and patterns. There are three unique features of this stack, namely, the form of the shelf supports, construction of the shelves and the method of finishing the metal.

The shelf supports are made of fine gray iron castings, reinforced, if necessary, by structural steel columns. Simplicity and compactness are gained by making the shelf

supports serve several purposes: to support the adjustable shelves, to hold the books upright, to carry the deck floor of the tier above, and to carry the shelf supports of the superimposed tiers. The shelf supports have rows of rounded blunt teeth on their front edges and strip steel horn locks riveted to their central stiffening ribs to lock the shelves in place automatically and allow of their easy adjustment at intervals of about 1 inch.

The gray iron uprights are made either open work to permit circulation of light and air or solid paneled for architectural effect. They are compactly made without hollow



SECTION THROUGH  
STANDARD RANGE FRONT



SECTION THROUGH  
STANDARD PARTITION

spaces so that the ends of the shelves are about 7/16 inch apart and all available space can be occupied by the books. All edges and corners are rounded to prevent scratching. Great stiffness is secured by compact ribs behind the back corners of the shelves. Each casting is carefully tested so that the stability of every stack is absolutely assured.

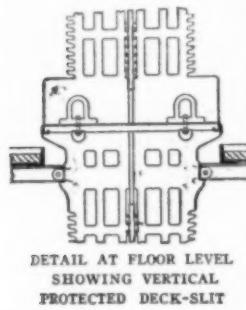
The adjustable shelves are of the ordinary solid plate type or preferably of the Snead open bar construction, and are designed for convenience, lightness, strength, perfect adjustability and to give the books thorough ventilation. The bars are curved



OPEN-BAR SHELF

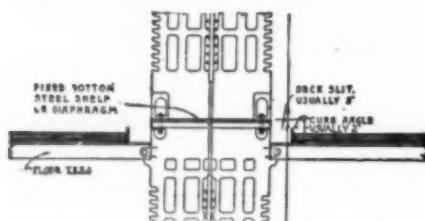
on top so that they will leave no impression on the books. They are made of bright polished strip steel with a surface as smooth as glass and they have a certain flexibility which allows them to rest on all four points of support without rattling. The rear supports are in the form of a simple gravity lock effectually preventing the accidental displacement of the shelves and yet allowing their adjustment without withdrawing them from the compartment. Every shelf is complete in itself without any loose parts or brackets which waste space and are

liable to be bent out of square. Over-size shelves can be inserted wherever required. These are generally used in connection with wide fixed bottom shelves, which, in the case of multiple tier construction, extend over and protect the ventilating slits in



construction are painted after erection and finished with enamel or bronze. By this method, any part of the stack may be refinished or touched up whenever required and assurance is given that a stack will begin its work with the finish in good condition and that the finish can be easily, economically and satisfactorily maintained.

The deck framing is generally so secured to the shelf supports and stackroom walls as to tie together both the building and the stack. The flooring material is preferably white marble for the sake of brightness, appearance and good walking surface.

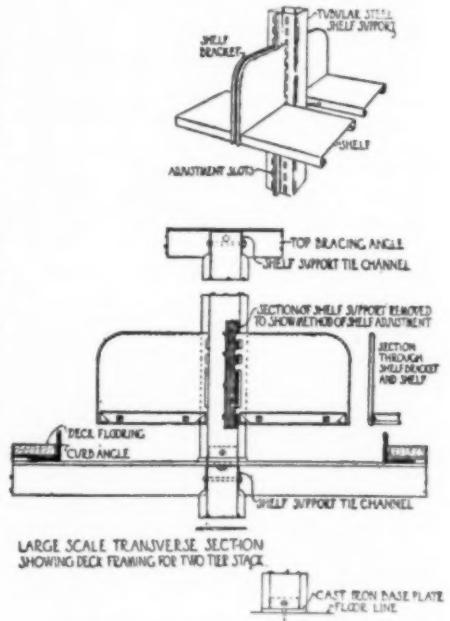


Snead stacks are designed to meet all kinds of engineering problems, such as bridging over empty spaces, carrying overhead loads and floors and suspension from roof trusses. Accommodation for heat-

ing, lighting and ventilating equipments and arrangements for future extension, either horizontally or vertically, are readily provided.

#### TUBULAR STEEL BRACKET STACK

For the sake of economy this stack is made entirely of sheet steel without the use of any gray iron castings. The uprights are of winged tubular form with adjustment holes at one inch intervals and have sections of varying strength for use in stacks of any required height. The security of



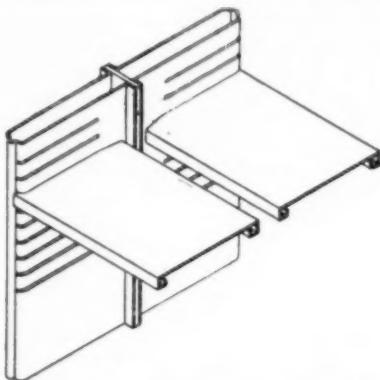
the shelves is trebly insured by three hooks that engage the slots in the uprights. The shelf brackets are flanged on the front and top edges to prevent straddling the books and are interlocked with the shelves in a secure but easily removable manner. The shelves themselves are made of smooth, cold rolled steel, triple flanged along the front and back edges for stiffness and single flanged at the ends where fastened to the brackets. Both shelves and uprights are finished with baked enamel.

## SPECIAL CASES AND SHELVING

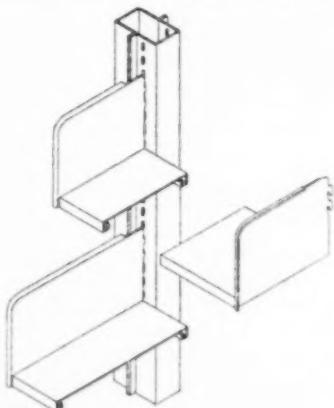
The Snead & Co. Iron Works also manufactures steel cases with glass and metal doors used for valuable collections, museum cases of steel or bronze and miscellaneous steel shelving for all purposes.

## ART METAL LIBRARY STACKS

THE Art Metal Construction Company, of Jamestown, N. Y., has within the last



three years developed a very neat and efficient bracket shelf. The brackets are fastened to the shelves by a special method, the flange on the end of the shelf slipping into an open fold on the bottom of the bracket. This has engaging lugs to hold



the two rigidly together, eliminating any unsightly bolts. This also enables the company to ship its brackets and shelves in the

flat, thereby saving crating and bulk in shipping, and the assembling of the bracket to the shelf is a comparatively simple matter that is quickly done. The standard stack is furnished with both cornice and base, and a cornice can be arranged for the bracket stack also, though it is not usually furnished.

Both standard and bracket types are so designed that at any time future installations may be made. This case is parallel to the ability to add stories to a building at any time, provided the structural features of the initial section of the building are made heavy enough to carry the load of the additional stories.

The Art Metal finish is extra strong enamel and in every way in keeping with the rest of the work.

## VAN DORN LIBRARY SHELVING

THE Van Dorn bookstacks are made in four styles, the bracket type, the closed



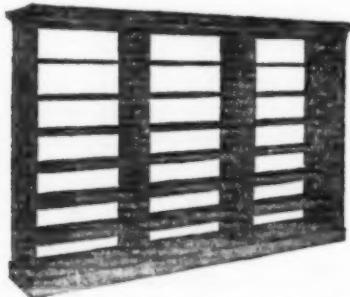
type, plain and simplex shelving, by the Van Dorn Iron Works Co., Cleveland, O.

The bracket type shelving consists of post uprights carrying shelves fastened to brackets by bolts, and the brackets are equipped with a lug and hook as the means of attaching to the upright. The hook slips into the slots in the post and provides a secure yet movable shelf. This type of shelving may be erected in any number of tiers in height, with intermediate floors and stairs.

The closed type shelving is constructed of sheet steel uprights re-inforced with

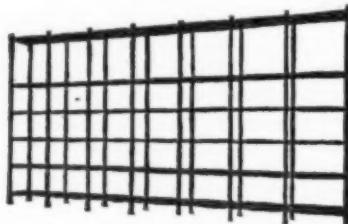
angles, and with slots for adjustment of the shelves. These adjustments are placed on one inch centers and the entire stack is equipped with base and cornice. A peculiar feature of the Van Dorn shelf is in the small blister on each shelf which prevents accidental withdrawing of the shelf with the books. This type of shelving may also be erected in multiple tiers as well as single tiers.

Van Dorn plain stock shelving consists of solid uprights, backs and shelves, adjustable every inch. The shelves bolt through the intermediate uprights and hook into the end uprights. The uprights are either 6 feet 11 inches, or 9 feet high.



There are two sizes of shelves—24 inches wide by 14 inches deep, or 36 inches wide by 14 inches deep. The bases and tops are 3 inches high and a shelf is necessary for each top and base. If a solid back is not wanted, a pair of back stays is necessary between each pair of uprights.

Simplex shelving consists of a rigid skeleton shelving, consisting of 2 inch by 2



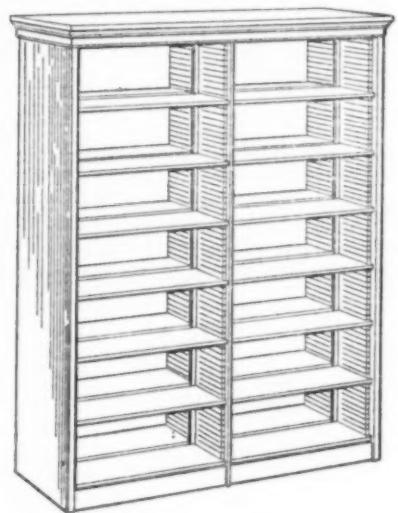
inch channel posts and solid re-inforced shelves adjustable every 3 inches. This shelving is easily put together without tools. The stock sizes of the posts are 7, 8, 9, 9½, or 10 feet high.

#### GENERAL FIREPROOFING COMPANY

The General Fireproofing Company, of Youngstown, Ohio, emphasizes in its manufacturing of metal library stacks, the popularity of standard slotted shelving. Its adjustment of shelves is on .97 of an inch, instead of the one inch adjustment found on the average type of shelving, which means that this type of book stack permits the average woman to reach the top row of books without the necessity of a stool. The shelves lock in, making a rigid and durable stack, as well as a good looking one.

This type of shelving can be designed to carry any number of additional stacks in height, and heating and ventilating ducts, as well as electric wiring, can be carried up in the ends of the stacks out of sight.

Some of the little refinements to which the manufacturers call attention are adjust-

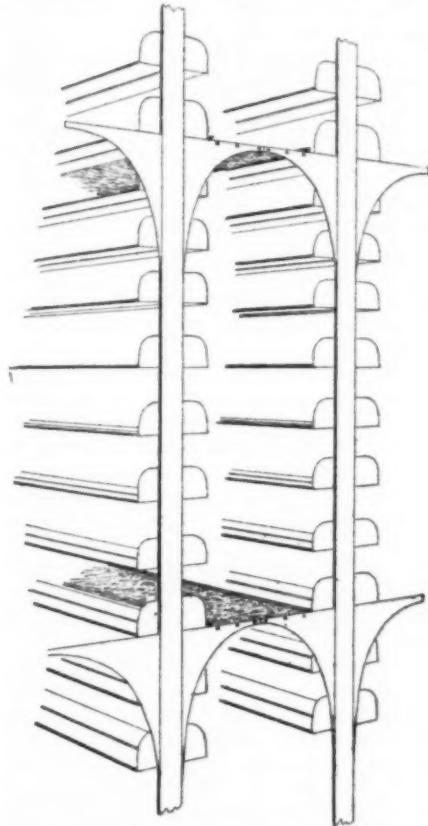


able shelf label holders, several types of book stops, double label holders on ends of double faced stacks, number plates, etc.

#### THE BORDEN CANTILEVER BOOKSTACK

ALTHOUGH this stack, patented Dec. 28, 1915, and manufactured by the Borden Bookstack Company, Westport, Ct., differs from others in several points that have been suggested to the inventor in his

long experience as a practical librarian, the most important difference between the Cantilever and other bracket stacks lies in its system of bracing. Architects know, and librarians who have had engineering experience also know, that when such heavy weights as books are to be supported, in multi-story arrangement, by a compara-



tively small column of steel, that column must be so adequately braced from every direction that it cannot be bent at its weakest points, which are where the different stories of the stack are joined together.

An overweighted column does not yield by crushing, but by bending. The lowest joint of a ten-story stack must hold true under a load of from seven to ten tons; rather too large a weight for anything short

of the most scientific bracing. Each lower post of a four-story stack must support nearly three tons.

Each post of every story of the Cantilever stack is braced *along* the line of the rows by a system of horizontal and diagonal braces common to most stacks. *Across* the line of the rows each Cantilever post is fastened to the post opposite by an arched cantilever truss of steel. This combination of braces renders every post immovable and makes each story of the stack a solid foundation for the story above. The only limit to the height of a Cantilever stack is the point at which the entire stack becomes a column and is subject to the engineering restrictions that limit the height of columns.

The braces of the Cantilever stack are so placed that they do not infringe upon the book space of the stack. The presses extend in an unbroken length from the bottom of the stack to its extreme top (they are not interrupted at the top of each story); the shelves may be hung at any inch of this space, thus increasing the capacity of the stack by ten per cent. or more.

In this stack, also, the hollow post of the ordinary bracket stack has been turned inside out, decreasing the width of the double-faced cases by nearly two inches and thereby increasing the number of rows in the stack room. This change of form converts the hollow post into a solid one, bringing all surfaces liable to rust out into the open where that rust can be detected and remedied.

When the posts of the Cantilever stack are used in the stacks the ends carrying the cantilever trusses are at the top of each story; when these posts are used in the wall cases and floor cases of the reading rooms they are turned upside down, bringing the cantilevers to the bottom where they form broad bases on which the cases stand securely without any further cross bracing. The shelves of the reading rooms and the stacks are thus made interchangeable.

Both the floor cases and the wall cases (as well as the stack cases) will take any width of shelf, up to twenty-three inches,

and in any of these positions the shelves may be spaced within a fraction of an inch of each other, if so desired.

The shelves of the Cantilever are ordinary bracket shelves, with the brackets reinforced against bending, and the hooks so staggered that they cannot hit each other when inserted into the same slot from opposite sides of the case.

Every part of the Cantilever stack, or of the reading room cases, is made by machin-

definite stress and to meet it adequately. While the Cantilever is lighter than any standard stack it is also heavier than some others of the bracket type, though not without a very good reason.

#### AN ENGLISH SHELF STACK SYSTEM

THE *Librarian and Book World* of London, in its February issue, describes a system of bookstacks invented by Alexander J. Philip of the Borough Library of Gravesend.

"The essential feature of the new shelving and stacking," says the *Librarian*, "is steel tubes of greater or less weight according to the use to which the shelving is to be put. That is, for a library the tubes would be comparatively light, but for storing metal ingots in a foundry they would be appreciably heavier. The outside of the tubes may be grooved with a shallow, flat-topped worm.

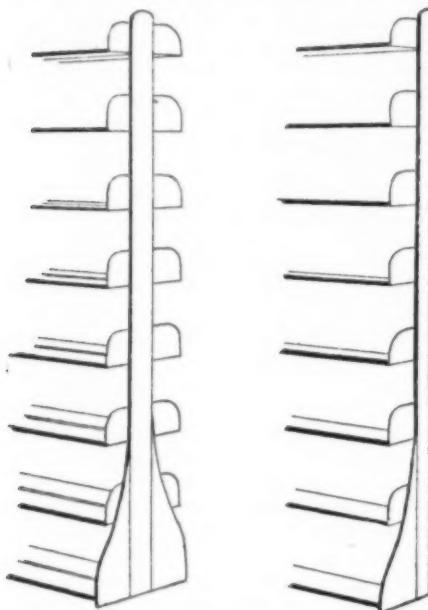
"Four of these tubes form a single stand joined together by cross-ties of tubing at top and bottom. The top jointing is by means of right-angles which screw on to the worm of the tube, the bottom joins a tube with a screw circle going over the tube to the desired height. This bottom bracing is unnecessary in a library. The ends of the upright tubes fit into feet on the floor. The support for the shelf is a grooved collar, running on the wormed tube, with a loose lip.

"The collar (four to each shelf) is strung on the upright. It is moved round, running up or down the worm of the upright, to the required height, carrying the lip, which revolves on the collar, with it. The lip is upright to carry a small tube for the support of a steel shelf falling on the tube. For books, which are lighter, the shelf may be all flat resting on lips.

"This is also the form to be used for wooden shelves.

"This is the essential feature of the new shelving. It fulfills the ideal conditions in the following way:—

"(1) Reduced cost: being a tube, made in one operation in any length, the cost is very much less than in the usual standard in which there is considerable handwork.



ery and is interchangeable; the manufacture of the various parts is carried so near completion that the erection of the stack in the library is only a matter of inserting the bolts in holes already punched for them; any good mechanic can do it; the same degree of intelligence can also take them down again, re-erect them in another building, or store them away for future needs. The stacks are furnished in baked enamel, in paint, or in the raw steel (the library to complete the finish after erection). Or the manufacturers will erect, if so desired.

Every piece of steel introduced into the Cantilever stack is put there to meet some

"(2) It is mechanically perfect because there is no spring throughout, to fail at odd moments, to lose its elasticity, and to suddenly jump.

"(3) The adjustment is microscopically exact, and yet for use in warehouses, shops, etc., where the shape of the articles stored makes it desirable, the back of the shelf can be lowered to produce a slope.

"(4) For lowering the shelf there is no need to remove the contents. For raising it, however, the weight must be taken off the collar. If there are fewer shelves needed than the collars provided, the unused collars may rest on the next shelf or be turned to the bottom.

"(5) The four standards with the bracings produce an absolutely rigid structure, capable of resisting any pull or shock in any direction. The base need be no wider than the body—in most stands it is necessary to make the base stand wide—because the weight is distributed over the square instead of being thrown on to a centre upright.

"(6) The weight to be carried by reason of the distribution over the square is unlimited.

"(7) Expansion is unlimited. One of the T or right-angular pieces for jointing must be the key, after that any length in any direction can be added. If a single has to be made into a double-fronted case or stand, the juncture is effected with T's.

"If a second stand has to be added to one existing a double-angled joint is used to connect up.

"If a shallow stand has to be made into a deep one, another upright is connected with similar joints.

"If two straight stands have to be made into a corner shape, the joints only need to be changed.

"In fact, there is no practical limit to the extension of the casing in any direction, including upward.

"(8) Portability. To remove the whole stand and dismantle it, the only operation is to disconnect the joints.

"(9) Simplicity in design. The spiral of the worm produces a pleasing design in the four chaste uprights. The square of the four uprights makes a complete structure

without any appearance of being a skeleton—even when the shelves are empty.

"(10) Increase of decorative effect. If, however, something more ornate is desired, the field is without any restrictions. The most simple addition is scroll work attached to the corner joints; this can be of any size and design reaching from top to bottom. If something still more advanced is desired, a whole sheet of steel can be hung in the same way, or a case of steel can be built up round it, although in practice it will be found that such extension of ornament is not necessary except where it is desired to give the appearance of wood. Bronzed, silver or gilt, or even black or green, the uprights look handsome.

"(11) The simplicity of manipulation does not require demonstrating.

"(12) Stack system. This has had its greatest development in America and is very little used in this country. In principle it may be described as building each floor with book-cases resting on book-cases on the floor below. This new shelving can be carried up story upon story by joints with a floor in place of a shelf.

"(13) The healthy conditions under the system are obvious. As there is (unless desired) no base, and there is a clear space under the last shelf, no dust gathers. In warehouses and libraries it is desirable to have the lowest shelf at least a foot from the floor. This can be regulated according to the condition of the stock, its nature, and the demands made upon the shelving at particular times. The top is covered in by throwing up a top shelf.

"(14) Libraries require three degrees of stands: the cheapest and most simple for stacks, something perhaps a little more ornate for the lending, and something handsome for the reference library.

"(15) For use in factories or warehouses the shelving lends itself admirably, as wooden shelves can be readily transferred for transporting from one place to another without unpacking."

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A good book is the precious lifeblood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond.—MILTON.

## LABOR-SAVING DEVICES

To stimulate interest in the practical adaptability of various labor-saving devices for library uses, the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* offers herewith short descriptions of a few of recent development or in standard use. This schedule does not attempt to be comprehensive, nor is inclusion in this list to be construed as a special endorsement, on the part of the *JOURNAL*, of the appliances described.

## UNIVERSAL PASTING MACHINE

The Universal pasting machine made by A. G. Prior, 136 Liberty Street, New York City, is a saver of time, labor and paste. The cost of size no. 1, which is the size best adapted to most library purposes, is \$10. The cost of up-keep is practically nothing, for the construction of the machine is extremely simple and it can be used for several years without the replacement of any parts. The machine may look to some like an ingenious plaything, but those who have subjected it to a careful comparison with the old method of pasting by hand, have demonstrated that it is an important saver of time and strength.

The base of the machine contains a reservoir into which a suitable amount of paste mixed to the right consistency is placed. When the book plate, dating slip, or card pocket is fed between the rolls by means of the crank, a thin layer of paste is evenly distributed over the surface and it is ready for inserting in the book. If the paste is of the right consistency the rolls cannot deposit too much paste on the surface of the paper and the paste is necessarily distributed evenly. If, as in the case of dating slips, it is desired only to tip the slip in instead of pasting it over the entire surface, this can be done by feeding the slip the desired distance through the machine and then reversing the roller. This results in getting the upper roller somewhat covered with paste, but it is readily cleaned.

The care of the machine requires but little time. The machine can be used to good advantage every day if there are on an average 25 or 50 or more books to be pasted, or in smaller libraries it can be

saved for occasional use when a large number of rebound books come to be prepared for circulation.

## MULTIPLEX DISPLAY FIXTURES

Few devices are known by a more truly descriptive name than the *multiplex* display fixtures made by the St. Louis Multiplex Display Fixture Company. These fixtures are made in many different styles, and the uses to which they have been put in many libraries are manifold. For the display of pictures, posters, bulletins, maps, reading lists,—in short, for the display of *anything*, there is a Multiplex fixture.

The essential features of the Multiplex are a main frame or standard, to which are attached a number of swinging leaves or wings. The main frame is made in many sizes and styles, and may be placed on a base attached to the floor, or may be placed on a desk or counter, or fastened to the wall, to the end of a bookstack, or a table. The leaves are pivoted to swing easily, and



open out so that the exhibit on each leaf is readily displayed to view. If desired, they are so pivoted that they can be brought to any position or angle, and two adjoining leaves can be shown to full view at the

same time. This style of Revolving Multiplex, shown in the first cut, is excellently adapted for use by lecturer and for many exhibition purposes.

Another style very useful in libraries consists of standards attached to the wall or a table, equipped with wings on which is narrow shelving, with guards, and adjustable to any height, for the convenient display of book lists and other printed matter intended for distribution. Other similar standards have wings covered with glass, for the better protection of fine pictures which it may be desired to display. Some libraries have made an interesting combination of these two styles, having some glass-

is designed for filing lantern slides. It carries 27 leaves, each leaf having a capacity of 56 slides, giving a total capacity of 1512 slides. In this fixture the leaves, instead of being pivoted to revolve about a fixed point, slide into a cabinet. The second cut shows how readily the slides can be brought into view, 56 at a time, by drawing the sliding leaf from the cabinet. A covering of tracing linen diffuses the light so that the slides, when exposed, are protected. The rest on which the leaves are drawn out for inspection of the slides becomes a dust-proof door when the leaves are all in place in the cabinet.

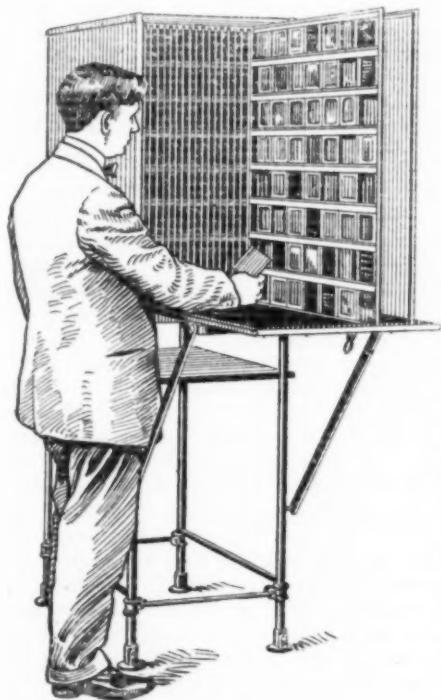
These few examples are fairly typical of what the Multiplex fixtures can be used for in libraries. All of the many different styles contain the same essential features and meet the same purpose of displaying exhibits compactly, conveniently, and attractively. The flexibility of the Multiplex system is such that new styles are being frequently brought out, designed to satisfy special needs.

#### VISIBLE INDEXES

The visible index made by the Index Visible, Inc., of New Haven, Ct., is in use in a number of libraries where comparatively short lists are needed for quick reference, as for listing periodicals, new books, coming events, the "black list," and an alphabetical list of manuscripts in process of chronological compilation. Cards are mounted on aluminum strips in such a way that they overlap, leaving the top line visible on each, and the strips, whether hung on rods or on a wing device, leave every key word visible. A device similar in appearance, though with some points of difference in construction, is manufactured by the Rand Index of North Tonawanda, N. Y.

#### CLIPLESS PAPER FASTENER

The Clipless paper fastener, for fastening together three or four sheets of paper as in a correspondence file, is made by the Clipless Paper Fastener Company of Newton, Iowa. It is in two styles, one operating like an ordinary perforator and the other like an ordinary punch. The latter is a specially useful little tool, saving time in



covered wings for small exhibits of pictures, and some wings with the shelving, on which are placed reading lists and bulletins bearing on the subjects illustrated by the pictures.

One of the newest styles of the Multiplex

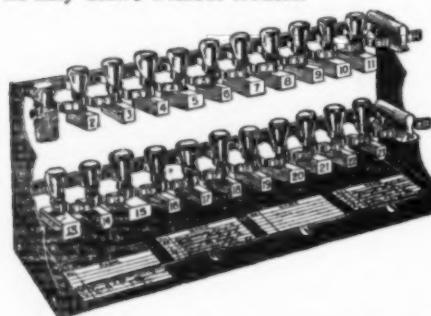
preparing letters for filing and space in the file itself. The fastener simply cuts a hinged tongue from the paper itself, bends



it back and inserts the tongue in a slot, locking the papers together easily and securely.

#### INDEX STAMP HOLDER

The Index stamp holder is made by the Index Stamp Holder Company, 6313 Harper Avenue, Chicago, in four different styles and many sizes. Style no. 1, the style best adapted to library purposes, is an ornament to any desk rather than a disfigurement and has the further advantages of enabling one to locate a desired stamp instantly. Whether the holder contains 12 stamps, or 36, or more, every stamp is in full view at all times. The index cards on the base of the holder supply a key to the arrangement of the stamps, so that there need never be any groping about to find the desired one. The Index also enables one who is not familiar with the arrangement of the stamps, to find any one which he may desire without trouble.



The metal parts of the holder are finished in hard rubber enamel and the top of the base is covered with glass to keep the index cards clean and visible.

#### AUTOMATIC COUNTERS

As it is desirable to make suitable records for statistical data of the various classifications of books placed in circulation by libraries, some means of tabulating this must be employed. The Veeder Mfg. Co. of Hartford, Ct., market three types of automatic counters for this purpose.

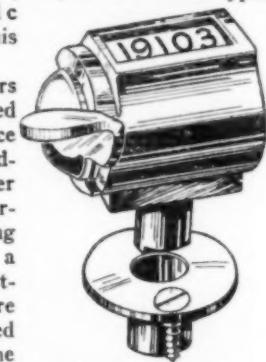
The counters may also be used as attendance registers, recording the number of persons entering or consulting the books in a certain department. They are customarily used in groups—one counter for each record or classification it is desired to obtain.

#### FABRIKOID FOR BOOK-BINDING

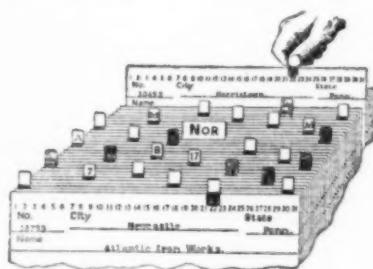
With the increasing shortage of hides, users of leather are looking to other quarters for material that will take its place. During the last few months the increasing cost of skivers and buffings for book-binding has caused many binders to consider giving artificial leather a trial. Book-finish Fabrikoid, manufactured by the E. J. Du Pont de Nemours & Co., is one of these artificial leathers under consideration, and is the result of a practical binder's experience. Some of its advantages and features as set forth by the manufacturer are that it has the leather effect in any grain or color; it comes in rolls and thus eliminates waste in cutting; it has just the needed degree of pliability, neither too soft to work well in a case-making machine, nor too hard to stand the bending of the joints; it is water-proof and washable, and book-covers of Fabrikoid can be washed; it is vermin-proof; and its cost is less than real leather.

#### ENAMELED STEEL SIGNALS

Smith's enameled steel signals, made by Charles C. Smith, Exeter, Neb., are designed for follow-up work of all kinds



either in ledgers or on card records. In library use they are especially well adapted for the purpose of following up over-due periodicals or keeping a record of outstanding book orders. The signals are made in different sizes and colors and are fur-



nished either plain or with printed guides. They therefore have an adaptability which suits them for many different purposes. In a small library an extremely simple system could be installed at slight expense, whereby there could be more satisfactory supervision of the outstanding book orders and of delinquent periodicals. In the larger libraries where the records are necessarily more extensive and the needs of supervision more urgent, a more elaborate system of signals could be installed which would simplify the work of keeping all records up to date.

The signals are made of two plates of tempered steel firmly welded together.



There is nothing to break or wear out and they are easily attached to the card or the ledger, while at the same time, they are clipped so closely to the card that they cannot accidentally become detached.

#### NEW CLEANING METHOD

The "Lang Method" of scientific library cleaning, recently perfected, was originated by William W. Lang and was first tried out in the Yale University Library. Since then it has been adopted by a number of libraries in New York City. It makes use of the vacuum system, but through the use of new devices for handling books, pamphlets and unbound material, together with special brushes for taking the dust, the work is done in a convenient and systematic manner and without causing injury or disarrangement.

The operation includes removing all books, etc., from shelves and cleaning both with a special vacuum brush, after which the shelves receive treatment with a special dust absorbing brush. Pamphlets and loose material are cleansed with a contrivance which renders them dust-free. Atlases, bound newspapers, portfolios, etc., are conveniently handled with another device.

A knowledge of the "method" is as necessary as the equipment. Mr. Lang makes a contract to clean the library once and by studying conditions is enabled to adapt the various devices and to instruct operators so that the outfit furnished is adapted to the particular conditions and needs of the individual library where the "method" with its apparatus is installed. Regular employees of the library can easily do the cleaning thereafter. It is claimed that with this innovation, one man can accomplish from three to five times as much as under ordinary conditions and get a far better general result.

#### SCHAPIROGRAPH MULTICOPIER

A duplicating machine which has been found useful in a number of libraries is the Schapirograph Multicopier, made by the Schapirograph Co., 228 West Broadway, New York City. It consists of a band or film of duplicating material, stretched across a platform in a box, wound on a spool at either end. The copy to be duplicated may be written either with typewriter or pen, the handwritten copy being capable of producing more copies. This is placed face downward on the band and left for two minutes, producing a negative from

which the duplicates are made. When enough are printed the film is wound up until a new copying surface is in position. The old ink will be absorbed so that the film can be used a number of times before it need be replaced.

#### JOHN THOMSON

JOHN THOMSON, for twenty-four years librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia, has passed away, and with him has departed another of the splendidly equipped men of books who are seldom found in the later generations. Librarian, actor, musician, and even prestigitator, he brought a marvelous versatility into his labors for the building up of one of the most popular educational institutions of this time.

Mr. Thomson was a self-taught man. Although he had but the beginnings of an education in a London Latin School, he deciphered the most difficult text or elucidated the dimmest of manuscripts with comparative ease. His first work in America was in connection with the library of Mr. Clarence H. Clark of Philadelphia, and those who are familiar with Mr. Thomson's catalog of that collection will think of it as the most important production from his pen. His work in the library of Jay Gould was not so interesting on account of the restrictions as to the subject matter of the catalog.

The Free Library of Philadelphia was chartered in 1891, but it did not open its doors to the public until 1894, when three rooms in the City Hall were awarded to it. In the meantime a series of branch libraries had been built up under the supervision of a committee of the Board of Education, and these two institutions were ultimately joined in one system. Mr. Thomson, therefore, began his active work in 1894, and for about ten years thereafter the writer saw and consulted with him nearly every day in the year. Indomitable in industry he would work from early morning until half past six at his desk, and then, after a hasty lunch, travel to some suburban library or institute to lecture upon one of the many topics in which he was interested, or to take part in some

local function, more or less in line with the library work. Although a man of firm convictions on very many points, Mr. Thomson was always willing to listen and to profit by the advice of his friends. In fact he was more than remarkable in this respect.

It was largely owing to his efforts that Mr. Widener presented to the institution the wonderful collection of incunabula which is now in the Widener branch, and he conducted alone the negotiations with Mr. Carnegie which led to the presentation of the \$1,500,000 for the branch libraries. While he delivered many lectures and wrote a number of treatises he will always be best remembered by the marvelous breadth of his interest in his conversations with his friends.

He was an organist of no mean ability. Thoroughly familiar with the church music of all time, he delighted in Mrs. Thomson's enthusiasm in hymnology. He would tell with the greatest pride of her having composed more hymns in the present Hymnal than any other living writer. He was thoroughly versed in the ceremonial of the church, and could not only give you the reasons therefor, but would describe the difference between it and the ceremonials of other churches.

He was associated with Dr. William Pepper in the foundation of the Philobiblon Club, and had a great deal to do with the success which attended its development.

He had hosts of friends in the Franklin Inn and the Art Club. He received honorary degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Ursinus College—tributes which gave him the greatest satisfaction. He will be missed by his friends for what he was, and by a large constituency in the city of his adoption for the many kind acts that he took pleasure in doing. His indomitable energy was never better shown than in his final struggle.

The portrait of Dr. Thomson which appears as the frontispiece of the issue, was painted by Henry Rittenberg. Mr. Rittenberg had only two sittings for this portrait at the end of June and the beginning of July, 1915. Mr. Thompson had al-

ready, at this period, been confined to the house for some months, only going down town at rare intervals. Sick as he was, he wished to be painted standing, and his erect, seated position in the picture suggests his strength of will. The large volumes with clasps, and the opened volume back of them, are sixteenth and seventeenth-century liturgical books, placed there to indicate his interest in books, music, and matters ecclesiastical. Over the corner of them is thrown the doctor's gown. This painting, which measures 40 by 50 inches, will hang in a place of honor in the new main building in Philadelphia.

THOMAS LYNCH MONTGOMERY.

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#### A CLIENTELE OF MEN\*

THE National Cash Register Library is now passing through the metamorphosis every collection of books passes through before it becomes a well-organized library.

The books accumulate. A custodian, a factory employe without library training, was appointed. The fiction collection grew rapidly and became very popular. Little or no discretion was used in the selection of books. Any book requested was purchased. The employes were pleased and satisfied. The factory was a convenient place to borrow the latest stories. There is no objection to this. Recreative reading is essential. The trouble lay in the fact that the library was a corporation library. Its service was giving no material gain to the company. That is the first step to be considered in a library supported and maintained by a business.

The company has an organization plan which provides for the arranging of the departments in groups called pyramids. About two years ago the library was transferred from the welfare pyramid to the educational pyramid. It soon became evident that a radical change was necessary to make the library fill its proper mission under this pyramid. The company hesitated a long time between appointing a practical business man or a woman with library training.

\*Being extracts from a paper read at the annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association, Oct. 5-8, 1915.

The library is under the direct supervision of the bulletin department. This department has carried on the real reference work for the company; subjects and books were analyzed; digests made; lectures compiled; newspaper articles written; research work carried on. The head of this department, with his complete understanding of this phase of library work, and I have worked hard on the construction of plans for a business library that will suit business methods and library technic. The reorganization of the library is still under way and will be for some years to come.

The purpose of the library to the company differs from the regular business library. We do not have collections of books on how to construct cash registers. The library resembles the college library more than the highly specialized business library. The collection of books is general, but we are rapidly developing special classes, such as business organization, buying, selling, salesmanship, advertising, accounting, auditing, and practical psychology for the men in the offices and on the sales force, and metallurgy, metallurgy, tool-making, mathematics, etc., for the men in the shop.

Our greatest effort is made to arouse the interest of the men in the shop. They are skeptical about finding anything in books that will prove of practical value in their work. We are working on the same five fundamental principles that the sales force uses in the selling of cash registers. First, attract the attention; second, arouse the interest; third, create the desire; fourth, gain the confidence; and, fifth, close the sale.

And now, how to put these into effect in the library? It was necessary that the library have some direct point of contact with the men in the shop. And to get this point of contact, the library purchased two complete sets of "The Machinery Reference Series and Data Sheets." I shall use these series to illustrate this method.

The men were told about the sets. But they did not use them to any extent until we issued a descriptive pamphlet of the sets, in pocket-size edition, copies of which were inserted on the *N. C. R. News*. This

is the factory paper. Each employe receives a copy. In the pamphlet we tried to reach several types of men with the information about how to obtain these books from the library. The simple arrangement of the sets was explained for the benefit of the men who like to find their own material. Information as to the length of time books may be kept, and library hours, was given for those who had never come to the library. For the men who do not have time, or for some reason do not want to come to the library, the use of the department clerk is permissible. That was our first attempt to attract the men in the shop.

Many men who had never been near the library are now our regular patrons. As soon as a man signs an application we know the type of books in which he is liable to be interested. The application shows the name of the applicant, the department in which he works and his check number.

It is easy to pick out the newcomers from the large number of persons who use the library at noontime. The newcomer approaches the desk, and, in rather a frightened manner, asks for R68 or R71 of the Machinery Reference Series. He is given special attention. He is taken to the collection and the books are found for him. While looking through one he feels more at ease. His interest has been aroused by finding something in the book with which he is familiar. A new member never leaves the library without fully understanding that we know his knowledge of the work is so much more complete than ours, and that possibly the book we have given him will not be of use to him. In that case he is not to hesitate to return the book and frankly tells us it is not the one he wanted, and we will try again. He leaves the library with his interest thoroughly aroused. When he returns the book, we know by the department he is from and the book he returns, what to recommend. He is shown several books on the subject in which he is interested. The desire to know more about the subject, or to read what other people think about the subject, is created.

The confidence of the man has been gained by not failing him on his first visit

to the library. By these methods we gain new members, who become constant visitors to the library. Individual work with the people is the secret of success in building up a clientele in a business library. We have attracted his attention, aroused his interest in the library, created his desire to know more about his work, gained his confidence in the ability of the library to help him, and closed the sale by having a satisfied user of the library.

Another method is the special and prompt attention give to the reference questions that come by telephone, messenger, or from persons who have no time to wait. Here I want to mention the great amount of assistance received from the reference department of the Dayton Public Library. In gathering data on a subject, all available information is collected and carefully marked. Business men have no time to search through contents and indexes to find what they want. If the question is too technical, we refer it to the department where it best can be answered. For instance, a difficult question on diseases is referred to the hygiene department, on chemistry to the test department, on law to the legal department, on electricity to the electrical engineering department, etc.

It will be necessary to do this until every book in the organization is entered in the central catalog at the library. Many of the offices have collections of books that especially pertain to the work in their departments. By cataloging and marking the cards with the name of each department having the books, and filing the cards in the library catalog, these books will be made available to any employe in the organization. These collections will supplement and greatly strengthen the general library collection.

Supplementing the work of the educational department is another important function of the library. The company has about one hundred and fifty young men attending classes of the Co-operative School at Stivers High School and the University of Cincinnati. The instructors as well as the students come to the library for research work. We use the usual library system of reserving a space for books on the subject which is being studied.

The system used by the company to instruct these apprentices is far-reaching. The foremen of the departments are given lists of questions by the instructors of the Co-operative School. With these as a guide, they are to give assistance to the apprentices in their departments. Many of these men come to the library as a last resort. They are practical men, who understand how to do their work perfectly, but have to have assistance to be able to explain the theory. The course in business English given to the clerks reaches the men in the offices in the same manner.

Many of the heads of departments are organized into classes and receive a general business course based on the Alexander Hamilton Institute books. Every six months, classes are held at the Agents' School for the training of salesmen.

All these courses are outlined and planned in the bulletin department. Rough drafts are mailed to the library. Lists of books supplementing each lesson are returned to the bulletin department and the books held until after the classes have met. Last year we had one special table for the English students. Every noon hour the men spent some time looking up antonyms, synonyms, and the definition of words.

The National Cash Register Company have long contended that in order to build the best machines, they must also build the men who are to build these machines; hence, we have a real reason for the existence of hygiene departments, rest rooms, gymnasiums, lecture halls and educational work. The library is part of this man-building work at the factory. And there lies our only excuse for existence.

EDITH PHAIL, Librarian, National Cash Register Company, Dayton, O.

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#### THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF PARIS: TO-DAY—TO-MORROW

THE library situation—or at least the public library situation—of Paris was described last year in a paper of approximately 14,000 words by E. Coyecque which was printed in two parts in the *Bulletin de l'Association des Bibliothécaires français*, (Jan.-April, 1915, p. 9-22; May-June, 1915, p. 49-61). In this paper he gives an ex-

haustive analysis of the subject from all viewpoints.

From it we learn that Paris has 82 libraries, created, endowed and maintained by the municipality. These may be divided into two groups, the *arrondissement* or district libraries and the *quartier* or ward libraries; 20 of the former, 62 of the latter. The *arrondissement* library is installed in the district municipal building. It is open twice a day and offers loan and reading and reference facilities. The staff is selected either from employes in public offices, or from retired members of these offices. The *quartier* library is installed in a boys' primary school, and is a loan library only, open once a day. The school director and an assistant instructor fill the positions of librarian and assistant-librarian. These are the general characteristics with a few variations. The 11th *arrondissement* library opens eight hours a day; the 16th *arrondissement* library besides loan and reading departments has historical, topographical and literary collections which are memorial legacies.

These 82 municipal libraries were not founded at the same time. Some date from the Second Empire; the greater number date from 1878; the oldest have been in existence fifty years; the majority have been in operation for twenty, twenty-five or thirty years. "This chronology," says the author, "raises the question; 'During this long period have the municipal libraries kept pace with the great law of evolution?' In other words, 'What should be the status of a municipal library in the City of Paris, of our epoch?'"

Under the sub-heading "The library of to-morrow" the author then details extensively the functions of the up-to-date library, and emphasizes that under the modern conditions specified, "the municipal library becomes transformed. It is no longer 'popular' only; it becomes 'public,' because 'tooled' or directed to serve all,—it is useable and it is used by all. Thus, in England, in America and even already at Levallois-Perret, are the functions of the modern public library understood. Is not the public library the most excellent of post-graduate institutions? that which becomes the companion of the grown-up

even before leaving school, to accompany them throughout life, and to leave them only at the threshold of the tomb? . . . The time then has arrived to modernize the municipal library, and this does not mean to increase the library budget, but to employ to better purpose the social capital already devoted to the purpose, so that it may produce real—commercial—results."

"The author then proceeds to demonstrate how these results can be best obtained, elaborating the details with much historical, interesting and lively comment under the headings: Location; Books; Publicity and catalogs; Hours; Home loans and reference reading; Free shelves in the free library; Administrative organization; Administrative council and general director; Local agents and local commission; Feminism in the library. All the suggestions are made along the lines of the most up-to-date American library methods.

Part II of the article is devoted to "The library of to-day," and the opening paragraph typifies its contents: "If with the ideal library, the library of to-morrow, of which the essential features have been indicated, is compared the actual condition of the municipal libraries of Paris, one finds unfortunately that the differences are still very great."

Illustrative of these conditions is the paragraph: "The great trouble (*désastre*) with French libraries," says our confrère Eugène Morel, "is that they are always shut. Of the 82 Parisian libraries, 14 open two and a half months a year; 67 others open only a month and a half a year; one only, that of the 11th *arrondissement*, the dean of the libraries, dating from the Second Empire, is open three months in the year. Let it be understood that the 14 open twice a day for the two-hour sessions; and the 67 once a day for two hours. As a contrast, the library of the Place Voltaire opens from 11 to 17 hours." The recommendation will appear somewhat strange to American eyes that "in the district libraries the work of assistant librarians could be usefully confided to women," and that "in all other libraries, women are quite capable of filling

the functions of attendants." And will the American mind agree with the author that "an increase of the library budget is not needed to produce better commercial results" when we read in "The budget of municipal libraries" that in 1915 the total expenses for operating 83 municipal libraries amounted to 287,200 francs (\$57,440) while the fixed annual salaries ranged as follows:

*Librarians*

28 of the 1st class at 1000 francs ea.=\$200.  
26 of the 2nd class at 800 francs ea.=\$160.  
27 of the 3rd class at 700 francs ea.=\$140.

*Assistant Librarians*

34 of the 1st class at 650 francs ea.=\$130.  
34 of the 2nd class at 600 francs ea.=\$120.  
35 of the 3rd class at 500 francs ea.=\$100.

*Attendants*

58 of the 1st class at 500 francs ea.=\$100.  
60 of the 2nd class at 450 francs ea.=\$90.

REPORT OF THE NEW YORK  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE report of the New York Public Library for the year 1915 shows a continuance of the steady growth which has been a feature of its existence each year. Some comparative figures brought together in the report of the trustees show what this growth has been in the past five years.

The number of visitors to the Astor and Lenox libraries in 1910 was multiplied more than tenfold in the number of visitors during the past year to the central library. The number of those who called for and consulted books in the reference reading rooms in the central building has grown from 232,506 to 827,644. The total number of books and pamphlets belonging to the corporation has increased by nearly half a million—or from 1,919,982 to 2,410,379—of which a large proportion are now exposed on open shelves for the indiscriminate use of all visitors. The total number of employees of all classes has increased from 732 in 1910 to 1248 in 1915; that is, it has almost doubled.

All of this, it must be noted, has been accomplished without any corresponding increase in the invested funds of the corporation or in its income. For the first complete year of occupation of the Central building, the expenditures of the reference department were \$473,579.42, but these had increased in 1915 to \$617,704.43, an in-

crease of only 23.38 per cent. The expenditures of the circulation department increased still less—from \$656,685.10 in 1910 to \$806,026.42—a growth of only 22.74 per cent. The income for circulation is almost entirely derived from an appropriation by the city.

The five years for which Mr. Carnegie provided a maintenance fund for the library school have expired, but his contribution has been continued for another year. Its continued existence, however, is a matter of serious concern.

During the year 2,558,717 persons entered the Central building. Of these 827,664 registered as readers, and were supplied with 2,289,436 volumes. The most popular class in the main reading room was literature; the next was economics and sociology, and the third, history. The circulation from the branches amounted to 10,384,579 books.

In the American history division considerable research work has been done, and a large number of American and Canadian maps have been added to the map collection. The manuscript division became a separate division during the year. An unusual number of readers were noted in the genealogy and local history division, due to the increased interest in anniversaries of cities. Readers here numbered 26,129, and they consulted 154,863 volumes. People came to the art and prints division for all sorts of information, as well as to view the exhibitions there displayed. In the music division work was begun on the revision of the catalog as well as on the card index of characters, scenes and stage settings of operas. An unusual number of books and pieces of music were added to the collection. The economics division, which now includes the documents division, had 21,446 readers and added 21,728 pieces to its collection. The effects of the war in Europe have been seen in the character of the investigations pursued here, and the selection of material has been influenced by the increased interest in economic and sociological problems.

In the science division there were 24,712 readers. During the entire year there was an unusual demand for books on optics,

more especially on the manufacture of lenses and the physical properties of optical glass. As in the preceding year, the European War increased the number of inquiries about pharmaceutical products. To facilitate the search for information, and to help those who read only English, much time was spent in selecting and indexing articles in the *Philosophical Magazine* and in the *American Journal of Science*. In the technology division, the war brought many investigators to the library to study the opportunities afforded for new industries, notably in the coal-tar and petroleum products. The toy makers sent their agents to learn how to make dolls, mechanical toys, and Christmas tree ornaments. Annotated lists of new technical books printed separately and in the library publications have proved useful and popular. There were 85,326 readers in the technology and patent rooms, 70,282 coming to the technology division. This was an increase of 64 per cent. for the latter and 13 per cent. increase for the patent room.

The oriental, Jewish and Slavonic divisions all report an increase in number of readers, but a serious decrease in the number of foreign books, magazines, and newspapers possible to obtain by importation, and readers have had to depend more than usual on the publications in foreign tongues printed in this country.

In the new manuscript division 375 applicants registered and were supplied with 776 volumes, 183 boxes, 5 packages, and 1082 separate pieces of manuscript. Many more persons, who were not registered, sought advice and information pertaining to books, articles, or addresses, upon which they were engaged, or else they submitted manuscripts for an opinion as to their genuineness or intrinsic value. The most important accession was the papers of William Smith, the historian of New York, covering the period from 1763-1783.

The collection of about 60 war periodicals has had many readers in the periodicals division. Trade journals were also much in demand. Thus, a representative weekly journal dealing with the subject of advertising was called for 646 times during the year; one dealing with drygoods, 902 times; one

on architecture, 973 times; one on hotels, 259 times; and one on jewelry, 279 times. There were 549 calls for a certain weekly dealing with railways, 1693 for one about real estate, and 1919 calls for a journal on the subject of moving pictures. There were 161,185 readers who signed slips for periodicals during the year—an average of 445 a day, taking no account of the use of over ninety periodicals on open racks.

During 1915, the order division received, for the use of the reference department, 46,411 volumes, of which 15,479 were purchases and 30,932 gifts. The number of pamphlets was 66,181, of which 10,895 were purchases and 55,286 gifts. Gifts were received of 4667 volumes and 2518 pamphlets for the circulation department. In the reference accessions division 35,406 volumes and 2665 pamphlets were accessioned. Of this number 18,508 volumes were purchased or were received on exchange account and 16,898 volumes and 1278 pamphlets were gifts. Included in this record are 1315 "pamphlet volumes" made by binding together in single volumes 1408 unbound volumes and 15,129 pamphlets, grouped so as to make volumes of about two inches in thickness, relating to a single subject.

The number of volumes newly cataloged in the reference department was 22,596; of pamphlets, 19,419; of maps, 233. The cataloging of 783 volumes and 694 pamphlets was carried on by adding to entries already existing. There were 10,165 volumes and 1670 pamphlets recataloged; and 7829 volumes and 1600 pamphlets cataloged by the use of cards purchased from the Library of Congress.

Of works serial in their form, magazines, society publications, etc., there were cataloged 2722 volumes and 4681 pamphlets, a total of 7403. In addition, 14,241 volumes and 12,079 pamphlets were added to entries already in the catalog. There were recataloged 1452 volumes and 903 pamphlets. In all, 59,788 volumes, 41,001 pamphlets, 233 maps were handled, making a total of 101,022 items.

In the library printing office 62,875 titles were set, from which 655,541 catalog cards were printed, a decrease of 171 titles and 39,482 cards from 1914. Of miscellaneous

stationery forms 11,193,486 were printed, and of publications 696,000 copies, each group being a considerable increase over the preceding year. In the bindery 55,183 volumes were bound, 1831 repaired and 17,336 miscellaneous pieces handled.

Use of the Municipal Reference Library, in the Municipal building, has steadily grown. The total number of books and pamphlets received was 12,685. The number of inquiries answered, including those received by letter and by telephone, was 8023. During the year, 6693 persons borrowed 10,836 books. The *Municipal Reference Library Notes* was published weekly except during July and August, and about two-thirds of the 200 periodicals on file are received by gift or in exchange for the *Notes*. The library also prepared a new edition of the *Municipal Year Book*.

In the circulation department 10,384,579 books were borrowed for home use, an increase of 868,097 over 1914, and representing a circulation of 3.4 per capita. The number of volumes in the department was 1,100,952, of which 1,029,996 were for home use, 112,834 being in 27 different foreign languages. The book order office purchased 197,816 volumes. In addition, 4667 volumes and 2518 pamphlets were received as gifts and sent to the branches. The custom of receiving new books on approval has continued, and of the 7194 new titles examined, 5452 were added to the library. Of these, 1,630 were in foreign languages. Subscriptions have been placed for 3805 magazines and 371 newspapers for 1916. In addition, 1162 magazines and 274 newspapers are received as gifts. The number of magazines bound was 1136. In the cataloging office 191,297 books were handled, an average of 638 per day. A year ago it became apparent that a picture collection for lending was desirable in the circulation department. Consequently the cataloging office began to gather, classify, and prepare pictures for circulation, until, at the end of the year, there were 17,991 pictures, more than half of them mounted, and the rest in folders. A surprising number of these pictures came from unbound magazines and old books, which might otherwise have been sold for old paper. The collection also con-

tains 5444 post-cards, 3500 of which were presented early in the year.

Fifty per cent. of the books supplied in 1915 by the interbranch loan office reached the applicant within three days after he had made his request. During the year, 95,184 books were supplied, out of a total of 127,598 asked for. An additional 6571 were lent as "sets" for temporary reference use, etc., making, altogether, 101,755 titles lent between branches.

The total attendance in the adult reading rooms in the branches was 1,224,526, a loss of 43,353 from 1914. The greatest use of reading rooms was at the Seward Park and Hamilton Fish Park branches on the lower East Side. One reason for the loss in total attendance is because fewer men have been out of work. The Sunday attendance in the five adult reading rooms which were open was 38,694.

In the Library for the Blind, the total circulation, including magazine and music scores, was 31,528. Three embossed sections of the catalog were issued early in the year. The home teacher gave 280 lessons, paid 476 visits, and exchanged 318 books.

The traveling libraries office had 952 stations, through which 962,355 volumes were circulated.

The number of children coming into the children's rooms of all the branches was 1,608,753. The circulation of books from children's rooms was 3,938,031. The total circulation of books to children, including the figures recorded by travelling libraries, was 4,415,794, or 42 per cent. of the total circulation of the library. Systematic work with elementary schools has been developed as the limited resources of the library permit, and the children's librarian of the traveling libraries office was unusually busy.

Exhibitions both for adults and children have been held in the Main building and in the branches, and have included paintings, etchings, engravings, and museum exhibits designed to stimulate interest in certain classes of books.

One new branch building was opened during the year. This was the George Bruce branch, moved from West 42d street to a

location on Manhattan street when the Central building and the West 40th street branches were opened.

#### ANNUAL REPORT BROOKLYN PUBLIC LIBRARY

A GRATIFYING record of progress in all departments is revealed by the annual report of the Brooklyn Public Library for the year 1915, which has just been made public.

The most interesting event of the year was the action of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in voting the issue of \$210,000 of corporate stock for continuing the work of building the Flatbush Avenue wing of the new Central Library Building. This wing, when completed, will provide fireproof quarters for the rare and valuable reference collection now housed in the Montague branch, and will accommodate the various administration departments now located in rented quarters at 26 Brevoort Place.

The cost of books purchased in 1915 was \$95,003, only seven per cent. of which was spent for new works of fiction published less than a year back. The circulation of all fiction was 3,977,998 volumes, of which about nine per cent. represented novels published within a year. This would seem to indicate that the percentage of money spent in the purchase of new fiction is not sufficiently large to arouse adverse criticism.

One new branch library was opened during the year. This was the Red Hook branch, the last of the twenty buildings to be erected from the Carnegie fund. In this connection it is noted that there is still sufficient money remaining in this fund to erect two additional buildings, provided the city furnishes the sites. Tentative suggestions for the location of these two buildings are made in favor of the Ridgewood section and the Tompkins Park neighborhood.

The number of books owned by the library at the end of the year was 862,112. The library received as gifts during the year 4,706 volumes and 10,717 pamphlets.

The circulation of books for the year was approximately 6,000,000, the exact figures

being 5,875,190. This circulation represents an increase of 880,309 over that of the preceding year, and is the largest annual circulation recorded in the history of the library. The circulation is fairly well distributed over the entire area of Brooklyn. In the past year nearly every branch in the system reported an increase in circulation, ranging from 63,494 at the Montague branch, 47,503 at Bedford, and 46,098 at East, down to 139 at the Library for the Blind.

The reference department at Montague branch not only serves readers who come in person to that branch, but also renders assistance to persons who apply to other branches for information. Thus, in the past year, 4,177 questions which could not be adequately answered by means of the limited reference collections at the other branches, were forwarded to the reference department at Montague and satisfactorily disposed of there.

The work of the department of sociology is likewise growing steadily. As the resources of this department become more generally known, an ever increasing number of ministers, doctors, social workers, and students rely upon it for help in the solution of their various problems. The development of this department is therefore a convincing argument in favor of the specialization in reference work.

The very liberal policy of the board of trustees in regard to the use of the library auditoriums is greatly appreciated by the public. Assemblies of all sorts meet in these halls, while story hours and study-club work are conducted in the smaller study rooms by members of the library staff.

In spite of the unusual increase in circulation, money was not available for a corresponding increase in the staff of the library. Resignations, deaths, and new appointments produced many changes in the personnel, but the actual increase in the number of persons due to the increased amount of work was only five.

#### CONFERENCE ON COMMUNITY CENTERS

A NATIONAL conference on community centers and related problems, called by about one hundred leaders in the work in

all parts of the United States, will be held in New York City beginning Wednesday, April 19, and continuing through Saturday morning, April 22. The following will be the main divisions of the conference: The financial support of community center work; the community center and recreation; the community center and immigration; the community center and public health; the demands of community center work on the city plan; co-operative art in the community center and the application of art forms to rural life. There will be reports and discussions on all these subjects, and it is believed that the vital contact between workers which this conference will bring about, will do much to clarify the philosophy of the community center movement.

So many libraries to-day are centers of community work, and the correlation of their activities with the wider use of school buildings and playgrounds and parks is so important, that librarians should follow closely the progress of this conference. The organization headquarters are at 70 Fifth avenue, New York City, and the secretary, John Collier, will be only too glad to give fuller information regarding the plans for the meetings.

#### THE ATLANTIC CITY CONFERENCE

THE coming conference of the A. L. A. at Asbury Park, N. J., in June, in no wise affected attendance at the annual bi-state meeting at Atlantic City, Mar. 3-4, unless it can be said to have focussed the attention of librarians upon New Jersey. The record of attendance surpassed all previous years, with 330 names on the hotel register for all or part of the conference.

A special meeting of the New Jersey Library Association was held Friday afternoon, Mar. 3, with Miss Margaret A. McVety, president of the association, in the chair. The reading of the minutes was dispensed with, and the treasurer's report was given in very brief form. Receipts for the year amounted to \$240.53 and disbursements were \$143.79, leaving \$96.74 now on deposit. The association has a membership of 227 at the present time. The president appointed the following committee on nomi-

nations: Dr. Richardson (who afterwards withdrew), Miss Peters, Miss Winser, and Mr. Hughes. At a short business meeting after the session Saturday morning, this committee reported the following nominations, and the candidates were unanimously elected: President, Dr. E. C. Richardson, librarian of Princeton University; first vice president, Edward L. Katzenbach, trustee of the Trenton Public Library; second vice president, Adeline J. Pratt of the Asbury Park Public Library; secretary, Norma B. Bennett, librarian of the Madison Public Library; and treasurer, Elizabeth White, librarian of the Passaic Public Library.

Dr. Frank P. Hill of the Brooklyn Public Library was the first speaker Friday afternoon, his subject being "Twenty-five years of the New Jersey Library Association." New Jersey's library law was introduced in the legislature in 1884 by William Prall, and passed in the same year, its passage being followed within a few years by the establishment of public libraries in Paterson (where Dr. Hill was librarian), Passaic, Newark, Jersey City, and Hoboken. The first meeting of the state association was held in Trenton in 1890, in the rooms of the Union Library Association, and the association was organized with 26 members, though a larger number were present at the meeting. Mr. Prall was the first president, Dr. Richardson vice president, and Dr. Hill secretary. The commission bill was not passed until 1900, and the commission had no appropriation until the next year. The first Atlantic City meeting, planned by Dr. Thomson of Philadelphia and Dr. Hill in 1896, was held with about 125 present, and the meetings have been held each year since that time.

Following Dr. Hill's reminiscences, Miss Maud McClelland of the New York Public Library opened a discussion on the use of fiction as reference material, with the paper printed in the *JOURNAL* last month. She was followed by Miss Ella B. Cook of the Trenton Public Library, whose general conclusion was that while fiction may sometimes be used to advantage to make more vivid the information derived from other less appealing sources, the benefits derived will scarcely compensate for the time,

labor, and expense necessary to make it available in most libraries, and that its introduction should be gradual.

Three-quarters of to-day's novels are not written for enjoyment, but for the discussion of some problem, and so require greater mental effort on the part of the reader than many a book classed as "literature," was the opinion of Miss Corinne Bacon. If novels were to be classified by kind, not by use, one group would contain those which were purely recreative; in another group would go the ones distinctive for their literary workmanship; a third would include the novels written not to instruct or for propaganda, but solely as "slices of life"; a fourth would take in the novels of inspiration. None of these would be especially useful for reference purposes. Novels which might be adapted for reference use would be those giving information through the introduction of real characters of history or through the careful picturing of the life of some particular place or period. Novels written as social propaganda also often contain valuable reference material, but to try to classify all information which may possibly be included in fiction involves much useless work.

Inexpensive material that would be good for teachers, especially of history and geography, was described by Miss Marion G. Clark of the Newark State Normal School. She also urged the librarians to get the advice of teachers when selecting books for school use, in order to get just the right material for the different grades. With a little encouragement, the teachers would be willing to make notes of material in the educational journals, suitable for "special day" programs. If one drawer in the catalog could be reserved for these notes, in the course of a year or two an index to much valuable fugitive material would be provided. She also urged letting the children collect and mount the picture collection; letting them write, as a language lesson, letters ordering inexpensive material for the library; interesting both children and parents to bring curios for exhibits of local interest; getting parents to give travel talks to children on places they have visited; greater co-operation with the school dis-

trict in the purchase of reference books for the use of schools; and the co-operation of manual training classes in binding pamphlets and public documents.

Miss Louise Connelly, educational expert of the Newark Public Library, closed the session with an exhibition of pictures chosen from the Newark Library's collection to illustrate the differences between the Scandinavian and Greek peninsulas. The pictures were chosen by children for a geography lesson on the two peninsulas, and included a comparison of customs, architecture, costumes, literature, civilizations, and mythology. Several librarians joined in the discussion, and told of various sources of pictures and pamphlets which they had found valuable.

Some of these papers were printed in a pamphlet, "Atlantic City topics," which was distributed in advance of the meeting. A bibliography of fifty titles on "Municipal government" by Prof. W. B. Munro of Harvard was included in the pamphlet, and a mimeographed list of publishers of inexpensive geographic material, compiled by the Newark Public Library, was also distributed.

The Friday evening program was provided by the Pennsylvania Library Club, and was presided over by Frederick N. Morton, the president of the club and librarian of the United Gas Improvement Company of Philadelphia. In the absence of Mayor Riddle, the city solicitor welcomed the librarians to Atlantic City. Constant von Sternberg, president of the Sternberg School of Music of Philadelphia, spoke briefly on "The connection between books and music," and advised the librarians to add not only more music, but more books treating of the ethics and esthetics of music, to their collections. He followed his remarks with several amusing selections on the piano, ending, in response to repeated applause, with a more serious composition. Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, of Philadelphia, followed with an interesting talk on "Early American children's books," of which he has a considerable collection. The lecture was illustrated with lantern slides, and the quaint pictures of these early primers brought home forcibly the great change

which a century has brought about in juvenile literature.

Saturday morning the second of the joint sessions was held, Hon. Pierre P. Garven, a director of the Bayonne Free Public Library, presiding. The meeting opened with a general discussion of the value of the fines system. Miss Agnes Miller, of the Princeton Public Library, upheld the system, saying it is generally regarded by the public as being both legitimate and necessary. Miss Hill, of Summit, read a paper prepared by Miss Flor-Etta Kimball, who has recently gone from the Madison Library to Pittsburgh. She believes fines to be unnecessary and undesirable with children, laying the burden on the parent rather than the child, and suggested withholding the card as an alternative. A paper by Miss Catherine Van Dyne, of the Newark Public Library, was read by Miss Herber of Bayonne, after which there was a warm discussion by those present as to the extent to which fines should be allowed to mount up, and how rigid the librarian should be in the application of the rules.

Miss Louise Connelly then discussed, in her own inimitable way, the question "What part of all that is read in New Jersey is supplied by libraries?" By various devious methods, not always entirely clear to her listeners, she arrived each time at the general conclusion that only about one-fifth of the printed words read in the state during a year were read from library books. She suggested that any skeptical person who might question these figures should consider the members of any group of people whose reading habits were known to him, and ask what per cent of their reading was from library books, what from non-library books, and what from papers, magazines, circulars, etc. The library seems to be facing the same problem that confronts every teacher: Shall it continue to live up to the standard set for itself for the sake of the few who appreciate it, or shall it drop to the level of the majority now, in the hope of lifting the mass later?

Saturday evening's meeting, with Dr. Richardson in the chair, opened promptly at 8.30. By a rising vote the members present expressed their concurrence in the

following appreciation of Dr. Thomson, of Philadelphia:

The members of the Pennsylvania Library Club, and of the New Jersey Library Association, have learned with sorrow of the death, on Feb. 23, 1916, of John Thomson, A.M., Litt.D., librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Dr. Thomson was one of the founders of the annual meeting, at Atlantic City, of these two organizations, and frequently presided at its sessions.

His industry in providing the speakers, and his personal interest in the proceedings, had much to do with the success of these annual meetings.

His genial presence, his friendly greeting, and his definite personality, will be long remembered by the members of the two organizations with which his name has been so closely connected.

THOMAS L. MONTGOMERY, *Chairman.*

JOHN ASHURST.

EDWARD J. NOLAN.

The first speaker of the evening was George F. Deiser, librarian of the Hirst Free Law Library in Philadelphia, who talked on "Legal parchments," illustrating his remarks with numerous stereopticon slides. He pointed out many curious characteristics of the writing on the old manuscripts. He was followed by E. M. Sterling, vice president of the George L. Dyer Company of New York City, who summarized reports made on the question "What libraries can learn from the methods of promotion and education of the Curtis Publishing Company," by Martha A. Burnet, librarian, Dover Free Public Library; Irene A. Hackett, librarian, Englewood Public Library; Louise G. Hinsdale, librarian East Orange Free Public Library; Edith C. Moon, head of loan department, Trenton Free Public Library; and Marie L. Prevost, assistant librarian, Elizabeth Public Library. The library, as the Curtis Company tries to do, must find out the public need and work to make it the public desire, while endeavoring to provide the means of satisfying that desire. It must follow the Curtis policy of making its organization personal and human and a helpful influence in the community, and may well adopt as its own the four principles governing the Curtis policy: (1) Expansion by promotion or growth; (2) aggressive action in taking printed matter to the possible reader; (3) persistent and intelligent advertising; and (4) timeliness in all its offerings.

Saturday afternoon the usual delightful tea to the visiting librarians was given by the Atlantic City Public Library. This year, attendance at the meetings having

grown so large, it was decided not to hold the reception in the library building, but to go instead to the Belvedere room in the Hotel Traymore, with its beautiful outlook over sea and city. There were the usual New York and Drexel dinners Saturday night, and the Pratt graduates who stayed over Sunday had a post-conference luncheon Sunday noon.

#### AMERICAN LIBRARY INSTITUTE

The Institute held a preliminary business meeting Friday morning, March 3, in the small banquet room of the Hotel Chelsea at Atlantic City, which was attended by seven members, President Richardson in the chair and Miss Ahern arriving from Chicago just in time to take her place breathlessly as secretary. The secretary made a report on the questionnaire and nominations submitted by mail to the forty-nine members of the Institute, from whom thirty-five replies had been received. Of these thirty-two were assentive to all the proposals on the paper, while three split their vote. The proposition to increase the membership to two hundred called out some comment in the replies unfavorable to the plan, and the opinion of those present was decidedly in the same direction, so that a motion to lay the proposal on the table was made and carried, with the understanding that consideration might be assumed at a larger and more representative meeting.

The following additional members of the Institute were elected through affirmative answers to the nomination paper: Louis N. Wilson, A. C. Coolidge, W. N. C. Carleton, Adam Strohm, A. S. Root, Andrew Keogh, Walter Lichtenstein, Victor Paltsits, Ernest D. Burton, Willard Austen, Walter B. Briggs, W. L. R. Gifford, Genevieve M. Walton, Matthew S. Dudgeon, George S. Godard, Horace G. Wadlin, W. E. Henry, J. C. M. Hanson, George Parker Winship, Charles K. Bolton, and Wilberforce Eames.

There was considerable discussion as to the continuance of the Institute and its relations with the A. L. A. and other library organizations, in which each person present took part. The general sentiment was that the plan outlined by the president gave a field for the work of the Institute which

perhaps would differentiate it usefully from other library organizations, but it was thought best to have this question more definitely treated, and a motion was carried to the effect that the board be directed to formulate plans as to methods and field of the Institute in co-ordination with other library organizations, which might later be submitted to the members for full discussion. It was also decided that those elected to membership who had not taken up their membership or had suffered it to lapse, might become members in full standing on payment of current dues.

The second meeting was held in the same room, with a good attendance of a score or more, on Saturday morning at 9:00 o'clock at which hour the prompt president promptly called to order the one prompt member then present. President Richardson read his comprehensive analysis of the possible field for the Institute in the direction of "learned society development," with a special reference to scholarly work and the teaching of bibliography and library science in general in universities and to advanced students desiring to specialize in paleography and like topics. This led to a further discussion of much interest as to possibilities before the Institute, which was presented by Miss Plummer, as president of the A. L. A., and by many of those present. The trend of the discussion was in favor of "trying out" the plan proposed by the president, and Miss Ahern at this as at the previous meeting, specially emphasized the desirability of having an organization which would not be limited in scope or method by regulations necessarily covering and limiting the Council of the A. L. A.

The third session was held Saturday afternoon at 2, the general subject for consideration being the field of co-operation between libraries of learning. Preliminary to this discussion letters were read from several library schools on "the best book on library economy published in 1915," opinion being about equally divided between Fay and Eaton's "Instruction in the use of books and libraries" and Sayers' "Canons of classification," with scattering votes for several other volumes.

Dr. Andrews summed up in an admirable

paper, to be printed later in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, the "Recognized needs and proposed solutions" in the field of co-operation. Dr. Hill reported on a circular sent out in February to libraries in this country asking for information looking toward the preparation of a joint list on Civil War collections, the answers showing the location of much unsuspected material. Mr. Montgomery cited the many uses to which photostat copies of rare and valuable books and documents could be put, and suggested the preparation of a general list of material available to other scholars in photostat form. Dr. Gould, of McGill University, raised the question whether an institution should always have the privilege of obtaining reproductions of any material in another institution, with the understanding that copies should not be made from the copy and that proper credit should be given to the institution owning the original. It was the general opinion, with one dissenting voice, that while ordinarily such privilege should be accorded, under certain circumstances an institution might properly refuse the privilege. Dr. Lichtenstein, discussing historical periodicals, spoke of the need of more general co-operative lists, and discussed their possible scope and the ways and means of publication. H. S. Leach of Princeton reported briefly on two English department specialties in that library, the drama collections and the publications of the Bannatyne Club. Reports on early American newspapers, by A. E. Morse, and on American travels, by Dr. Steiner, were included in the proof copies of papers distributed to all in attendance.

#### STATE SUPPORTED LIBRARY ACTIVITIES—INFORMATION WANTED

THE Washington State Library Advisory Board is making a state-wide survey of all state supported library activities and seeks the co-operation of all who have heretofore been connected with work of this kind, or who may be at present engaged in it. The board wishes to profit by the experience of previous workers in this field.

The members have access, of course, to

the Nebraska Legislative Reference Bureau Bulletin on "State supported library activities in the United States," the publications of the Department of Surveys and Exhibits of the Russell Sage Foundation, and the reports of recent state commissions on economy and efficiency which have discussed state supported library activities.

As the Washington survey will include the whole field of the relation between libraries and schools, normal school instruction in library use, county libraries, the state library, legislative reference work, libraries in state charitable, penal and reformatory institutions, the relation of the state library to the other libraries of the state, traveling library work, library extension, etc., any special reports made on the subjects named will be of definite value to the board.

#### COMMITTEE ON SOUTHERN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

The committee on high school libraries of the Southern Conference for Education and Industry, has organized local committees in nearly every southern state. Up to the present time the committee has endeavored to secure the co-operation of educational organizations of all kinds and to give as wide publicity as possible to the library needs of southern high schools. In order to gain a direct knowledge of library conditions in the high schools of the South, the committee has sent out a questionnaire through the National Bureau of Education. After a survey of the general conditions has been completed with reference to southern high school libraries, a definite program of constructive work will be taken up. Some of the problems to be studied are:

- (1) What are the duties of the high school librarian and what should be her qualifications and salary?
- (2) What kind of library equipment is needed in southern high schools and how much money should be appropriated annually for the maintenance of the high school library?
- (3) Under what conditions is public library control preferable to school board control?
- (4) What can be done to improve conditions through state legislation?

(5) What general state supervision is needed in order to secure the most efficient use of high school library facilities?

(6) How should instruction in the use of books and libraries be given high school students?

The future work of the committee will be directed along lines determined upon through the survey now being made in co-operation with the National Bureau of Education. This survey will cover sixteen states. The following is a partial directory of local committees by states:

##### CITY HIGH SCHOOLS

*Kansas:* Willis H. Kerr, chairman, librarian Kansas State Normal School, Emporia; Mabel Parks, Hutchinson High School, Hutchinson; Hazel Howes, Wichita High School, Wichita.

*Texas:* W. T. Doughty, chairman, state superintendent of education, Austin; Mrs. Lizzy Litsey, High School, Fort Worth; J. C. McIlhannon, English department, Baylor University, Waco; Laura Alexander, Dallas High School, Dallas.

*Oklahoma:* Anna LeCrone, chairman, North Western Normal School, Alva; Ruby Canton, State Normal School, Oklahoma City; Maggie Delo, High School, Oklahoma City; Adelia Clifton, High School, Oklahoma City; S. B. Lippincott, High School, Oklahoma City; Mrs. Anna Burk Love, county superintendent, Oklahoma City.

*North Carolina and South Carolina:* Louis R. Wilson, chairman, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.

*Virginia:* Dr. S. A. Steger, chairman, principal of Benford Junior High School, Richmond.

*West Virginia:* Walter Barnes, chairman, head of department of English, State Normal School, Fairmont.

*Maryland:* Dr. Edward F. Buchner, chairman, professor of education and psychology, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

*Louisiana:* Mrs. Esther Finlay Harvey, chairman, Sophie Newcomb Memorial College, New Orleans.

*Missouri:* Prof. Mark Burrows, chairman, State Normal School, Kirksville.

*Arkansas:* J. L. Bond, chairman, Department of Education, Little Rock.

*Kentucky:* Fannie Rawson, chairman, secretary of the Kentucky Library Commission, Frankfort.

*Tennessee:* Harry Clark, chairman, University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Marilla Wait Freeman, librarian Goodwyn Institute, Memphis.

*Alabama:* C. C. Certain, chairman, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn; Olive Mayes, librarian, Girls' Technical Institute, Montevallo.

*Florida:* Amelia Kendall, chairman, Cres-

cent City; Prof. J. N. Thackston, state high school inspector, Gainesville; I. I. Himes, West Palm Beach; Dr. Kelley, county superintendent, Gainesville; Marshall Moore, county superintendent, Tampa; James Hatcher, De-Funiak Springs; Pearl Bellamy, Micanopy; Herbert deWolf, Pensacola High School, Pensacola; T. R. Coot, Live Oak; O. R. Heweth, Glendale.

*Georgia:* Ralph Newton, chairman, superintendent of public schools, Fort Valley.

#### RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS

*North and South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland:* Dr. J. L. McBrien, chairman, school extension agent, Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.

*Kansas:* Etta Joe McCoy, chairman, superintendent of Franklin County, Ottawa; J. F. Shoemaker, rural school inspector, Topeka; Prof. H. M. Culter, Normal School, Emporia; Prof. H. L. Kent, Agricultural College, Manhattan; W. H. Kerr, librarian, Normal School, Emporia; S. R. Rowland, county superintendent, Hutchinson; Hattie E. Woods, county superintendent, Garnett; Nettie E. Barber, county superintendent, Phillipsburg.

*Arkansas:* J. L. Bond, chairman, supervisor of rural schools, Little Rock; Eva Reich, 1201 Welch Avenue, Little Rock; L. M. Redwine, Greenwood; D. A. Bowen, Brinkley; W. R. Edwards, Bentonville; Mrs. R. T. Milwee, Clarendon, Little Rock.

*Louisiana:* M. L. Bonham, chairman, department of history, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge; Sallie Brooke, Homer High School, Homer; Dr. E. L. Stephens, president, Industrial Institute, Lafayette; C. E. Byrd, superintendent of Caddo Parish, Shreveport; H. L. Garrett, White Castle.

*Missouri:* Prof. Mark Burrows, chairman, Kirksville.

*Oklahoma:* Charles Evans, chairman, Edmond.

*Texas:* E. L. White, chairman, county superintendent, Brady; Ernest Keeling, county superintendent, Jourdanton; Mrs. E. L. Walker, county superintendent, Brownwood; W. C. Martin, county superintendent, Roby; W. S. Ely, county superintendent, Waxahachie.

*Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and Florida:* Mrs. Pearl Williams Kelley, chairman, department of public instruction, Nashville, Tennessee.

C. C. CERTAIN.

### American Library Association

#### ASBURY PARK CONFERENCE

Plans for the Asbury Park conference are going forward, although definite announcements cannot yet be made. The president, the secretary, and Miss Edna B. Pratt, chairman of the local committee, visited Asbury Park, March 5 and 6, looked over a number of the

hotels and discussed the conference with their managers.

Headquarters will be at the New Monterey and the Columbia. These two hotels are directly across the street from each other and together will house about 950 people, assuming a reasonable amount of "doubling up." We will have the *exclusive* use of both. There will probably be an attendance of from 1200 to 1500, so perhaps it will be the largest conference in the history of the A. L. A. Therefore an overflow from the two headquarters hotels is expected and being planned for, and with the co-operation of the local committee, arrangements are being made with a number of other hotels in close proximity to headquarters. There are hotels in abundance in Asbury Park, and so there will be plenty of room, no matter how many come.

Rates at the headquarters hotels range from \$3.50 to \$5.00 a day, American plan, according to number occupying room, location, size and bath. Definite information as to rates for all recommended hotels and directions as to making of reservations will be made about May 1, through the library periodicals and the *Bulletin* of the A. L. A. In order to preserve absolute impartiality, the rule will be observed that those applications received by the hotel managers before the date announced for making reservations will be considered as having been received on the opening date for making such reservations. There is small likelihood that any who apply within reasonable time after receiving the directions in the May *Bulletin* will fail of accommodations at the headquarters hotels.

The general sessions will be held in the Convention Auditorium, occupying a city block, just across the street from the New Monterey and the Columbia. Sections and affiliated societies will meet in the parlors of the two hotels, and the larger groups in the Auditorium.

Recreational features abound—there are tennis courts close by the New Monterey to which we shall have access, there is a golf course on the edge of town, there is a fresh-water lake with boats and canoes two or three hundred yards away, so near the ocean that it seems as if the waters of the two must mingle; there is the boardwalk, somewhat similar to the famous institution at Atlantic City, there are auto drives, a good dancing floor at the New Monterey, which will be duly utilized, and last, but not least, there is the ocean. The New Monterey is right on the beach, and bath houses are close at hand. The local committee is preparing a pamphlet on "What to

do at Asbury Park," which will be distributed free to all at the registration desk at the conference. The local committee will maintain a desk at headquarters to give information, arrange drives, boating parties, and the like.

The president is arranging an exceptionally appropriate and helpful program for the general sessions, and the officers of the sections and affiliated societies are also planning good specialized group meetings.

The National Education Association will meet in New York the week following our conference at Asbury Park, and it is hoped that this close proximity of date and place will enable many teachers to attend the library meetings and many librarians the teachers' meetings.

A preliminary statement by the travel committee regarding transportation is given in this issue, and a final report will be made in the next number.

Special attention will be paid to exhibits. The committee on library administration plans to conduct an exhibit of library labor-saving devices similar in many respects to that held in Washington in 1914, which proved so very popular.

Altogether, it seems conservative to say that the Asbury Park conference bids fair to be one of the best in the history of the association. The place is easy of access, the dates are probably as convenient for the majority as any which could be chosen, there is an abundance of first-class hotel accommodation at reasonable rates, there is the ocean and many other recreation features, and we are promised a good program. Ought not this combination give us an exceptionally good conference, and one of which in after years you will be glad to have been a part?

G. B. U.

#### PRELIMINARY TRAVEL NOTICE

Asbury Park, N. J., is easy to reach from all parts of the country, and reduced round-trip summer excursion rates will be available.

From New York City, an unlimited round-trip is offered for \$1.75, good either by rail or by boat and rail. (To this, 20 cents must be added if start is made from the Pennsylvania Station.) The routes from New York City are: (a) Sandy Hook boat to Atlantic Highlands, connecting there with train for Asbury Park. (b) Pennsylvania Railroad. (c) Central Railroad of New Jersey.

From Philadelphia, a choice of routes and tickets is offered: (a) Five-day excursion *via* Monmouth Junction, \$3.00. (b) Sixteen-day excursion same route, \$3.75. (c) Sixteen-day excursion *via* Elizabethport, \$3.75. (d) Sixteen-day excursion *via* Seaside Park, \$3.25.

Although the rates for June are not yet all available, the travel committee feels assured they will be practically the same as those given in the following table.

From New England, the North Atlantic states (exclusive of New York City, Philadelphia, and surrounding local points which have special rates), and from Southern points (south of Washington and west of New Orleans) excursion tickets will be on sale—good either for six months or until Oct. 31, according to locality.

From the Middle West—Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Detroit, etc.—a thirty-day ticket will be available (also in most of these places a slightly higher-priced rate, good until Oct. 31, will be made). It should be noted, however, that Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, are to be reckoned with the North Atlantic states points, as they have an all-season ticket available at minimum price.

From Colorado, and from Missouri river points—Omaha, Kansas City, etc.—also from Minneapolis and St. Paul, round-trip tickets will allow a sixty-day limit returning. From Texas excursion tickets will be good until Oct. 31.

Pacific coast delegates will buy to New York City, good for return until Oct. 31, or good for nine months. No rate is made from the coast to Asbury Park.

Prices of excursion tickets from New England and the North Atlantic states are from five to nine per cent. less than double the one-way fare. From the Middle West there is a slightly greater saving.

From Southeastern territory, Texas and Colorado, the reduction amounts to about 20 per cent.

Western tickets should be purchased including New York City, as nearly everyone will wish to visit that city.

A personally conducted party from Chicago and the Middle West will be arranged by John F. Phelan, of the Chicago Public Library. A Pullman train will be run from Chicago to Asbury Park without change.

From New England, F. W. Faxon will conduct a party, *via* Sound line boat to New York and thence by Sandy Hook boat to Atlantic Highlands, only 40 minutes from Asbury Park by rail.

The post-conference trip will be omitted this year.

No personally conducted parties will be planned returning, but the travel committee will make reservations for any wishing to return together, and will be glad to give all information required.

PROBABLE ROUND-TRIP RATES TO ASBURY PARK	
New York City	\$1.75—\$1.95
Philadelphia (5 days' limit)	3.00
" (16 days' limit)	3.75—3.25
Boston (all rail)	12.25
" (Sound lines)	9.75
Washington	10.55
Pittsburgh	21.25
(There is also a 16-day excursion rate of \$12.00, good leaving only Thursdays.)	
Buffalo	19.65 (Differential, \$17.75)
Cleveland	26.20
Detroit	31.70
Grand Rapids	31.70
Indianapolis	33.00
Chicago	35.00 (Differential, \$31.70)
Cincinnati	32.00
Louisville	34.00
St. Louis	40.00 (Differential, \$37.00)
Memphis	43.00
Atlanta	37.55
New Orleans	54.55
Forth Worth	58.75
Denver	72.85

From Middle Western points and Buffalo, by traveling over "differential" lines, a saving of from \$2 to \$3 on the round-trip may be made. This is shown, for example, from three points in table above.

F. W. FAXON, *Chairman Travel Committee.*

## Library Organizations

### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held Feb. 24, in the lecture hall of the Mattatuck Historical Society at Waterbury.

The president, Miss Helen Sperry, introduced the Hon. Martin Scully, mayor of Waterbury and president of the Silas Bronson Library Board, who welcomed the association to Waterbury. A letter from Rev. Joseph Anderson, D.D., president of the Mattatuck Historical Society, was read, expressing his regret at his inability to be present at the meeting and extending a welcome in behalf of the Historical Society.

The first paper of the morning was by Miss Mary H. Davis, librarian of the Connecticut College for Women, who described briefly Connecticut College as it is to-day and outlined the course in library training which is a part of its curriculum. Referring to the demand for librarians trained in practice as well as theory, she said that the Connecticut College for Women aimed to combine these essentials in their Library School; and added that the librarians of the state could greatly aid by providing the students with opportunities for practice work in their libraries.

Henry W. Kent, assistant secretary of the Metropolitan Art Museum, gave an interesting address on museums. He traced the history of museums from the earliest times, point-

ing out that the curiosity of the Crusaders was the foundation upon which the museum idea was built. The public museum as we understand it to-day, we owe to Queen Victoria. With the museum at South Kensington, educational museums really began.

The early American museums were established chiefly by schools and societies, the one founded at Bowdoin College in 1811 being the first. To-day the museum is of great importance in supplementing the work of the public schools.

Mr. Kent said that librarians might learn much from museums concerning the value of exhibition. Everything connected with book making, prints, etchings, etc., should be shown, and they should not be content with bulletins composed of magazine pictures, but should provide reproductions of higher artistic merit. He considered it an important duty of libraries to create a respect for books and teach people how to buy wisely. One of the results of the war has been the development of a special interest in the use of the collections of fabrics and jewelry by designers who formerly obtained their designs abroad. Librarians, he thought, should strengthen their departments of art and design, for after the war there will be an increased demand in this line by manufacturers who must prepare to compete with foreign manufacturers.

The Silas Bronson Library entertained the association at luncheon and after luncheon at the invitation of Mayor Scully, the members inspected the new city hall.

Many visited the exhibition of children's books at the Silas Bronson Library and listened to an informal talk by Miss Caroline M. Hewins of Hartford, on foreign picture books, supplemented by a splendid collection of these books from the Hartford Public Library.

At the afternoon session, resolutions of regret were offered on the death of Prof. John C. Schwab, Mr. Walter Learned and Mrs. Lillian Gunn Smith.

The following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year: President, Miss Anna Rockwell of New Britain; vice-presidents, Frederick W. Edgerton of New London, Miss Anna Hadley of Winsted, Miss Laure H. Philbrook of Middletown, Miss Fanny Brown of Danbury, and the Hon. Martin Scully of Waterbury; secretary, Mrs. C. H. Bissell of Southington; treasurer, Miss Esther B. Owen of Hartford.

A delightful talk entitled "Recollections of a Goethe collector" was given by William A. Speck of Yale University and was illustrated

by many rare and valuable specimens from his collection of Goetheana, which now numbers 3000 items and is one of the most complete in the world. He explained his methods of collecting in Weimar, relating numerous anecdotes of his experiences and mentioning his occupancy in Weimar of the room where Goethe spent much time.

Miss Anna Hadley of the Gilbert School, Winsted, gave an account of the meeting of the Library section of the Association of Classical and High School Teachers in Hartford, Feb. 12.

The meeting adjourned with a vote of thanks to the Mattatuck Historical Society and the Silas Bronson Library.

ELEANOR M. EDWARDS, *Secretary.*

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB

The fourth meeting of the year was held at the Russell Sage Foundation Building, March 9, at 8 p. m., President Jenkins in the chair.

Mr. John M. Glenn, director of the Foundation, graciously welcomed the club in a brief address and Miss Theresa Hitchler gave voice to the feelings of all present by moving that a vote of thanks be extended to the Foundation for their cordial welcome and most hospitable reception.

The membership committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Ralph Dunbar, has been working vigorously to enlarge the club. At this meeting ninety-eight new members were elected.

After the usual routine business, the president introduced Mrs. Riggs (Kate Douglas Wiggin), who delighted the audience by readings from her own stories. Admirers of Dickens rejoiced in the glimpse of a most lovable man given in "A child's journey with Dickens." Equally pleasurable was the reading from the pathetic story of "A village Stradivarius." For the last reading Mrs. Riggs permitted her audience to choose between a Rebecca story and the struggles of the Ruggleses in preparing for that never-to-be-forgotten Christmas dinner, and the Ruggleses won by a large vote.

It was a gracious act on the part of Mrs. Riggs to give so generously her talent, particularly as she was just recovering from an illness. The unusual treat was greatly appreciated by the members of the club. This was shown by the large attendance of more than five hundred.

At the conclusion of the meeting, on a motion made by Mr. H. W. Wilson, the club expressed its pleasure in Mrs. Riggs's readings by a rising vote of thanks. The club

then adjourned to the library, where refreshments were served.

ELEANOR H. FRICK, *Secretary.*

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB

The Chicago Library Club met March 9 at the Newberry Library upon the invitation of the latter. About one hundred were present, of whom thirty-five had dined together beforehand. The second vice-president, Miss May Massee, of the *Booklist*, took the chair in the absence of both Mr. Hanson and Miss Forstall.

The subject of the evening was "Some special libraries in Chicago." The speakers were authorities in their lines, had made special investigations, had summed up their information, and presented it in an interesting way so that the meeting was profitable and enjoyable. An extended account of the information given will be printed in the JOURNAL.

After the formal discussion was over, three minutes were allowed for a suffrage speech, and then the meeting adjourned for inspection of exhibits and for refreshments provided by the Newberry Library.

AUGUSTUS H. SHEARER, *Secretary.*

#### MISSOURI VALLEY LIBRARY CLUB

The regular monthly meeting of the Missouri Valley Library Club was held in the Assembly Room of the Kansas City Public Library, Monday evening, March 13. The meeting was addressed by Mrs. M. H. DeVault of the Kansas City *Athenaeum*, who spoke on "Modern short story writers." Mrs. DeVault traced the history of the short story, beginning with the cave man, who first pictured the story and then told it. The four greatest short story writers, according to Mrs. DeVault's classification, are Poe, Hawthorne, Mérimée and Gautier. In the writing of short stories, America takes first rank—not only because of her two great masters but more because of the uniform excellence of her short story writers. Mrs. DeVault enlivened her talk with the plots of many short stories told very briefly but so artistically as not to lose their spirit or their effect upon the audience. The meeting was most interesting and profitable.

The April meeting will be the annual question box conducted by Miss Florence S. Smith, head of the reference department of the Kansas City Public Library. This will be preceded by a paper on the Wyandotte Indians by Mrs. Sarah Judd Greenman, librarian of the Kansas City (Kan.) Public Library.

GRACE BERGER, *Secretary.*

## OKLAHOMA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Oklahoma Library Association has accepted the invitation of the Kansas Library Association for a joint meeting at Arkansas City, Kansas, in October, 1916. The exact dates of the meeting will be decided on later.

JULIUS LUCHT, *Secretary.*

## TORONTO LIBRARY INSTITUTE

The annual meeting of the Library Institute of the City of Toronto was held in Victoria College, when Professor A. E. Lang, the librarian of the college, gave the presidential address on "Library co-operation in Toronto," and Dr. George Locke spoke on "Early printing in Canada." There was an exhibition of some of the rare Canadiana belonging to Victoria, and afterwards the 106 delegates were entertained in the great dining hall. The officers for 1916 are: President, R. A. Gray, of Oakwood Collegiate; vice-president, Miss Charlton, of the Academy of Medicine; secretary, Miss Davis, of the Public Library; executive committee—Mr. Prendergast, of the Normal School; Professor Kittredge, of Trinity College; Principal Wright of Lansdowne Public School; and Mr. Hardy, of the Sunday School Association.

EVA DAVIS, *Secretary.*

## Library Schools

## PRATT INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

For the second time the school has had the privileges of the J. P. Morgan Library extended to it, and the class of 1916 enjoyed to the full the experience of seeing and actually handling the treasures of that wonderful collection. The Golden Gospels (a manuscript of the time of Charlemagne), Queen Elizabeth's prayer book, Mary Queen of Scots' school geography, the original letters of Catharine de Medici, the Gutenberg Bible, the manuscript of Dickens' "Christmas Carol," were among the priceless treasures the students were allowed to lay reverent hands upon.

Advantage was taken on February 17 of a triple attraction at the American Art Galleries—the exhibition of the Lambert collection of old masters, the J. S. Morgan engravings, and a library of rare books—to attend one of the auction sales at which first editions of Dickens and other English authors were sold.

The Library Chapter of the Neighborhood Association has for several years past appropriated money for the library of the Music School at the Greenpoint Settlement. Miss Gibbes who has charge of the school invited the class to her studio on St. Nicholas Avenue

on the afternoon of Washington's Birthday. A visit was paid to the Jumel Mansion nearby, after which some children from the Greenpoint Settlement danced the minuet in costume in token of their gratitude for what the Chapter had done for them.

Miss Annie Carroll Moore, superintendent of children's work in the New York Public Library, gave the class two lectures on Feb. 8 and 15, one on the history of children's work and the other on book selection for children. Mr. Edwin H. Anderson, director of the New York Public Library system, lectured Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 29, on the human aspects of the administration of a large library. On Tuesday afternoon, March 7, Miss Mary E. Hall gave her annual lecture on the opportunity of the high school librarian, which, as usual, met with enthusiastic response from the class. Mr. Andrew Keogh, librarian of Yale University, lectured on March 14 on the problems of college library administration.

The school was represented at the Atlantic City spring library meeting on March 3 and 4 by Miss Gooch. A Pratt dinner was held on Sunday at which there were 14 in attendance.

The students attended the March meeting of the New York Library Club held at the Russell Sage Foundation Building, at which Mrs. Kate Douglas Wiggin read from her own works.

Plans are in the making for the spring trip which it is to include a group of New England libraries. A full account of it will be given next month.

## ALUMNI NOTES

Elizabeth M. Sawyer, 1914, has been made assistant to the supervisor of smaller branches and high school libraries of the Cleveland Public Library.

Mary T. Atwater, 1915, is working temporarily in the children's room of the Columbus branch of the New York Public Library.

Janet E. Gump, 1915, has been made a senior assistant at the Montague branch of the Brooklyn Public Library.

Edith M. McWilliams, 1915, who has been since graduation in the Cincinnati Public Library, has been appointed librarian of the National Association of Advertisers in New York.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-Director.

## SIMMONS COLLEGE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The second term of the year divides itself into two sections, separated by the spring recess, March 23-April 4.

In the first division, just ended, the out-

standing special feature was the "reference week," Feb. 21-28, under Miss Elisa Willard. Before her coming, the upper class students began to get into the spirit by looking up questions which had recently been asked in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. The preliminary lecture was given to all the upper classwomen together but for the rest of the week Miss Willard met them in two smaller sections daily, and by the end of the week they were far richer in the appreciation of the joys and the spirit of reference work, and of the value of department team work, as well as in an increased knowledge of methods and aids.

The school was fortunate also in having a visit from Miss Annie Carroll Moore, who spoke to the class in library work with children on Feb. 28.

Both Miss Moore and Miss Willard were guests that afternoon at a tea in the Students' room, where the girls had an opportunity to meet them off the platform.

Visits of special interest during January-March have been those made to the Boston Book Company, and to the Somerville and Brookline Public Libraries.

Simmons was very glad to welcome some of her fellow library schools on their trips to New England libraries, and regretted that the vacation made it impossible to be as cordial as she would have wished. On March 30 the School of the New York Public Library made its first visit, and New York State is expected early in April.

As usual, the courses in children's work, under Miss Jordan, and in documents, under Mr. Belden, run through the entire second term.

#### SUMMER SCHOOL AND CONFERENCE

The summer course in library science will be held this year from July 3 to Aug. 11. Following the practice which has been found to work well for two years past, the work will be given in two three-week periods, either of which may be taken alone, though both are usually carried by the majority of those who register.

The general course from July 3 to July 21 will be one called "Cataloging and classification," which will include also book numbers, shelf-work and accessioning. There will be thirty class periods, two a day throughout the three weeks, followed by practical work. Miss Mary E. Hyde, the instructor in cataloging in the regular courses, will conduct this course.

The second general course, from July 24 to August 11, will be called "Reference work

and library economy," and will be in charge of Miss Susan Crampton of Boston, recently reference librarian in the Tacoma Public Library. Special lectures will assist Miss Crampton on library economy topics. It is planned to have several talks devoted to the problems of those who are either connected with school libraries, or have public library work in co-operating with the schools.

A new feature of great interest is the opportunity given the college to co-operate in the conference for librarians of Massachusetts, to be held at Simmons College under the auspices of the Massachusetts Free Library Commission, for the three days, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, July 25-27.

The program, of which details will be given later, will be under the direction of the commission, and promises to be very much worth while. This conference will be open to members of the summer class, and on the other hand the regular summer school reference lectures for those days will also be open to all visitors. As this comes just at the beginning of the second three-week period, it will be conveniently placed for those who wish to take either course, or both.

The course in "Library work with children" will be repeated this year, July 3-21, and will again be in charge of Miss Alice Higgins. Last year several of those who carried this course the first three weeks found it profitable to enter the reference courses the second three weeks.

#### GRADUATE NOTES

Rowena Edwards, 1914-15, who has been engaged in organizing work in the Gammons Theological Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia, has been appointed on the staff of the State Teachers' College, Iowa.

Jennie C. Frost, 1914-15, has been appointed an assistant in the Simmons College Library.

Minnie Pert, 1914-15, is working on the Bradley bibliography at the Arnold Arboretum.

Ruth Eaton, 1915, is employed in cataloging in the Harvard College Library.

Charlotte Norton is the librarian of the Scoville Memorial Library, Salisbury, Conn.

Alice Poor has been appointed to take charge of a library to be organized in Norfolk House, Roxbury, by the trustees of the Fellowes Athenaeum Fund.

Mabel Williams, 1909, has resigned as the librarian of the High School branch of the Somerville Public Library to join the staff of the children's department of the New York Public Library.

Laura Stealey, 1911-12, has been appointed in the Seattle Public Library.

Mary I. Haskell, 1910, is in the Extension department of the College of Agriculture of the University of Maine.

Marian Jones, 1908, is the visitor for the Social service bureau, Denver, Colorado.

The engagement has been announced of Edith Watson, 1907, to John A. Lowe, agent for the Massachusetts Free Library Commission.

Grace Hewett, 1908, has been married to H. A. Watkins. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins are living in Washington, D. C.

Katherine Stegmaier, 1908, is now Mrs. Edmund H. Sears, and is living at East Dennis, Mass.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY, *Director.*

*LIBRARY SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN*

The opportunity offered the students of the school to hear speakers of national fame at the University Convocations has always been appreciated. In January, Dr. Burton, president of Smith College, spoke on "The educated person." Dr. Burton spent several days in Madison and upon invitation very graciously consented to speak at the Library School. He spoke in a most compelling way on realizing ideals, saying that the ideal must be absolutely unattainable to be worth striving for, yet some of it can be reached every day. Both faculty and students appreciated the opportunity of hearing Dr. Burton and meeting him personally.

Several special lectures preceded field practice. First, "Foreign fiction" by Prof. Campbell of the English department. This lecture finished the work in fiction, which had been the topic under discussion in the book selection course for several weeks, and was a most suitable conclusion, pointing the way to the masterpieces from other countries that should be in every library. Second, Miss Bernice Ehler, head of the art department of the Madison High School, lectured on the "Principles of composition," showing many pictures and bulletins to illustrate her points. This lecture was in preparation for the making of picture bulletins. Third, correlating with the regular lessons in publicity, Prof. Bleyer of the School of Journalism gave a helpful lecture on "Newspaper publicity," the students going to the quarters of the school for the lecture, and at its close under the guidance of Prof. Bleyer, inspecting the equipment of the department, learning much in a brief time of the things that go into the make-up of a newspaper. The extension

department of the university was also visited, the greater part of the time being spent in seeing the manner of making up, filing, and mailing the package libraries. The students have opportunity to test the lessons in publicity during their field practice, and enthusiastic reports are being received of newspaper "stories" that have brought results, of store windows lent by public-spirited merchants for a library display, of posters put in conspicuous places, of visits to schools, etc., all to spread the "gospel of good books."

The first semester closed with the usual examinations, and Feb. 1 found the students at work in the several libraries of the state, to which they had been assigned. The faculty spend the months of suspended schedule, February and March, supervising the work of the students in the field, and in office work, completing records, revising courses of study, etc.

March brought Dr. Samuel McChord Crothers to Madison for a series of lectures and sermons. All the faculty and students who were in residence were invited to hear his lecture on "The literary clinic."

*ALUMNI NOTES*

Mary Watkins Dietrichson, 1909, has been placed in charge of the business branch of the Minneapolis Public Library, which was opened Feb. 1. She had previously been at the head of the municipal reference work, which will be transferred to the new branch.

Maude Le Roy, 1912, received appointment as assistant in the Minneapolis Public Library in January.

Leila A. Janes, 1913, librarian of the East Side branch, Evansville (Ind.) Public Library, was granted two months' leave of absence in January for a trip to South America.

Leone Hamilton, special student first semester 1915-16, has accepted a position in the cataloging department of the Wisconsin Historical Library for the remainder of the year.

*MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE.*

*CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH — TRAINING SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS*

Miss Mary E. Ahern, editor of *Public Libraries*, lectured to the school March 8 on "Public libraries."

"Mrs. Dodge and fifty years of Hans Brinker" and "The New York Public Library," were the subjects of two talks given March 11 by Miss Annie Carroll Moore, supervisor of work with children, New York Public Library. The second talk was illustrated by lantern slides.

George B. Utley, secretary of the American

Library Association, spoke March 14 on the work of the A. L. A.

As a part of the course in "Lending systems," junior students were required to visit circulating libraries maintained by book stores and report on the methods followed in lending books.

#### ALUMNAE NOTES

Mary Abbie Goding, 1903-04, died February, 1916, in Philadelphia. Miss Goding was children's librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia from 1904 to 1911.

Eva I. Cloud, 1912-13, has been appointed chairman of a state committee on publicity by the Illinois Library Association. Miss Cloud is librarian of the Public Library, Kewanee, Ill.

Mabel Harlow, 1910-13, has resigned her position as assistant in the children's department of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, to accept the position of children's librarian in the Carnegie Library, Oberlin, Ohio.

SARAH C. N. BOGLE, *Director.*

#### WESTERN RESERVE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Bookbinding is the subject of absorbing interest to the students at present. This course is given by Miss Gertrude Stiles, supervisor of binding in the Cleveland Public Library, and began Feb. 28. Lectures on social psychology by Professor Gehlke, of Adelbert College, began on the 10th of March, and will continue for ten weeks. In the book selection course lectures have been given recently by Mr. G. O. Ward, of the technology department of the Public Library, on the technical books, and Professor Arbuthnot, of Adelbert College, discussed the literature of economics. For the remainder of the year each student is assigned to some one department or branch of the Public Library for one evening each week. This gives opportunity for direct work with the public and for such duties as might be assigned to a regular member of the staff.

The school had the pleasure of welcoming Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, Feb. 23, when she spoke on the "Function of the public library in democratic society." A social hour followed the lecture when the class had the further pleasure of meeting Mrs. Elmendorf. Geo. B. Utley, secretary of the A. L. A., spoke Mar. 1 upon the work of the A. L. A., in such an interesting manner as to stimulate the interest of the students in becoming members of the association. The presence of Mrs. Utley was appreciated. On the same day Elwood Street, of the Cleveland Federation for Charity and Philanthropy, gave a talk on the work of that organization, illustrating it by moving pictures shown on the Pathé portable moving

picture machine. The machine itself, as well as Mr. Street's pictures, proved of great interest.

Miss Mary Eileen Ahern was another welcome visitor who spoke at the school March 9. Her inspiring and splendid presentation of the qualities entering into well-balanced library service were keenly enjoyed by the students. The visit of Miss Annie Carroll Moore, March 13, added yet another to the list of notable women librarians whom the students have recently had the opportunity to hear.

#### ALUMNI NOTES

Mary Marshall, 1914, has resigned her position in the catalog department of the Cleveland Public Library to accept the position of cataloger at the Akron Public Library.

Hazel Clark, 1914, has resigned her position in the circulation department of the Detroit Public Library to accept the position of organizer with the Iowa Library Commission.

ALICE S. TYLER, *Director.*

#### SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SCHOOL

The curriculum of the Library School has been strengthened by the addition of a new course in the binding and repairing of books. It is given by Miss Mary Ketcham, Professor of Design in the John Crouse College of Fine Arts. Prof. Ketcham has studied the art of book making in the best English studios and also in American binderies. She is accordingly well equipped for the work both in its artistic and commercial aspects. The course is given two hours a week for the second semester.

Miss Elizabeth Smith of the Library School faculty has made an innovation which adds interest and diversity to the work of the school. Under her direction Bernard Shaw's play, "Arms and the man," was read on February 10 by students of the Library School with the assistance of instructors from the English department of the College of Liberal Arts.

The purpose was to show that good plays can be entertainingly presented without action and to give the students training in dramatic reading. Those who later become librarians in small towns where only inferior plays are offered, will be qualified by such training to assist in cultivating the taste of the public for good plays.

There was an audience of seventy-five present, including students, the staff of the University Library, and some invited guests. Miss Smith plans to continue the work and a second play is now in course of preparation.

Miss Ethel Knight, '10, who has been an assistant in the cataloging department of the University Library, goes on March 1 to a position in the Bureau of Education at Washington.

E. E. SPERRY, *Director.*

*RIVERSIDE LIBRARY SCHOOL*

The winter school at the Riverside Public Library opened Jan. 10 and ended Mar. 4. There was an advance registration of 36 students, of whom 31 reported at the beginning of school. The course included lectures in documents and reference work, by Edith E. Clarke; cataloging and classification, by Mrs. Jennie Thornburg Jennings; school libraries and the relation between libraries and schools; binding, by W. Elmo Reavis; and library law, administration, etc., by Joseph F. Daniels. In addition there were lectures by representatives of different publishing houses, and by several of the leading educators of the state.

The 1916 summer school announcements will be out in April. The following instructors may be announced at this time, others later: Miss Theresa Hitchler, head cataloger of the Public Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., will teach cataloging and classification; Miss Helen Evans, assistant librarian of the San José (Cal.) Normal School, will teach documents, library law, and reference; W. Elmo Reavis will have two weeks of half-day sessions in the bindery; Mr. Daniels will teach business management; Miss Alice Butterfield will teach periodicals and serials. Two others are to be announced, besides a long list of lecturers who will be with us for a single period. Mr. W. C. Tanner will give six Saturday lectures on fine arts.

*PERSONALS*

Alvan W. Clark, 1916, leaves about April 1 for a position with the H. W. Wilson Company, White Plains, N. Y. Mr. Clark is a graduate of Leland Stanford, Jr., University, a resident of San José, Cal., and has made an exceptionally good record in the library service school. He has the distinction of being the first man to take the work in this school.

Nelle Sanord, 1915, has been employed as head cataloger at the Public Library, Bakersfield, California.

Mary Griffin, 1916 winter school, has been employed by the Ames (Iowa) Public Library, beginning in March.

Pansy Bolton, 1916, winter school, will not return immediately to her position in Strathcona, Alberta, Canada, but will visit with her parents in Youngstown, Ohio.

Mrs. Geraldine V. Carlisle will not return to Aberdeen, S. D., for the present but will

continue in the Library Service School at Riverside.

Mrs. Mabel Faulkner will return to the Raton, New Mexico, Public Library, after an extended visit to coast cities, the San Diego Exposition, and an experience of two weeks in the Pacific Library bindery in Los Angeles.

Esther Leiser of Missoula, Montana, will return to her position in the Public Library of Missoula after an extended visit in Santa Monica and other coast cities.

Five members of the 1916 winter school and of the long course also have applied for special certificates for high school work.

JOSEPH F. DANIELS.

*UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY SCHOOL  
SUMMER SESSION*

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Miss Ethel Knight, '10, who has been an assistant in the cataloging department of the University Library, goes on March 1 to a position in the Bureau of Education at Washington.

E. E. SPERRY, *Director.*

*RIVERSIDE LIBRARY SCHOOL*

The winter school at the Riverside Public Library opened Jan. 10 and ended Mar. 4. There was an advance registration of 36 students, of whom 31 reported at the beginning of school. The course included lectures in documents and reference work, by Edith E. Clarke; cataloging and classification, by Mrs. Jennie Thornburg Jennings; school libraries and the relation between libraries and schools; binding, by W. Elmo Reavis; and library law, administration, etc., by Joseph F. Daniels. In addition there were lectures by representatives of different publishing houses, and by several of the leading educators of the state.

The 1916 summer school announcements will be out in April. The following instructors may be announced at this time, others later: Miss Theresa Hitchler, head cataloger of the Public Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., will teach cataloging and classification; Miss Helen Evans, assistant librarian of the San José (Cal.) Normal School, will teach documents, library law, and reference; W. Elmo Reavis will have two weeks of half-day sessions in the bindery; Mr. Daniels will teach business management; Miss Alice Butterfield will teach periodicals and serials. Two others are to be announced, besides a long list of lecturers who will be with us for a single period. Mr. W. C. Tanner will give six Saturday lectures on fine arts.

*PERSONALS*

Alvan W. Clark, 1916, leaves about April 1 for a position with the H. W. Wilson Company, White Plains, N. Y. Mr. Clark is a graduate of Leland Stanford, Jr., University, a resident of San José, Cal., and has made an exceptionally good record in the library service school. He has the distinction of being the first man to take the work in this school.

Nelle Sanord, 1915, has been employed as head cataloger at the Public Library, Bakersfield, California.

Mary Griffin, 1916 winter school, has been employed by the Ames (Iowa) Public Library, beginning in March.

Pansy Bolton, 1916, winter school, will not return immediately to her position in Strathcona, Alberta, Canada, but will visit with her parents in Youngstown, Ohio.

Mrs. Geraldine V. Carlisle will not return to Aberdeen, S. D., for the present but will

continue in the Library Service School at Riverside.

Mrs. Mabel Faulkner will return to the Raton, New Mexico, Public Library, after an extended visit to coast cities, the San Diego Exposition, and an experience of two weeks in the Pacific Library bindery in Los Angeles.

Esther Leiser of Missoula, Montana, will return to her position in the Public Library of Missoula after an extended visit in Santa Monica and other coast cities.

Five members of the 1916 winter school and of the long course also have applied for special certificates for high school work.

JOSEPH F. DANIELS.

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the very openness of construction which is important for ventilation and cleanliness offers the best facilities for the rapid spread of fire. Here, as elsewhere, real protection is and must be the result of unremitting care.

The book is arranged in three parts: the first for business; the second for instruction or suggestion, and the third for illustration, showing not the stacks, but the buildings in which the stacks have been placed.

In the first part, covering 92 pages, there are set forth at length, under no less than 28 heads, the principles of the modern book stack, the history of its development and the fitness of the Snead construction, with profuse illustrations on almost every page. One not familiar with the subject is amazed at the infinite complexity and minute nicety of detail requisite to the production of satisfactory results on such an enormous scale as the growth of great libraries demands. The mere reading of these descriptions must create a profound respect for the stack builder who has met the conditions of the problem with so great ingenuity and is able to offer to the libraries the finished product.

The cost of shelving is given on page 73 as varying from 40 cents to one dollar or more per lineal foot. This is not definite. In each case this is a matter of contract and depends on style, finish and, possibly, competition.

The second part of the book, taking 17 pages, treats of various aspects of library planning. The articles are valuable. In the main, they apply to large libraries. One of them is written from the librarian's standpoint, the others from the architect's. They have no connection with one another and necessarily fall short of giving a complete treatment of their subject. Hence this present volume cannot take the place of a manual of library planning as the title of the book would suggest. One paper which treats specifically of "Scientific planning" offers at the outset a carefully worked out formula based upon the appropriation as a fixed fact as if the amount of money was the first thing to be ascertained. This may, very properly, be the architect's point of view, but the real scientific planning begins with the public need. It must count the books and the readers before it counts the dollars.

A bibliography of the subject of library buildings is given on page 120, followed by a list of 201 libraries which have received Snead installations. This list includes a few duplicates, such, for example, as Columbia University, which are also on the list of other stack builders. No doubt these libraries are using more than one kind of shelf.

The third part of the book consists of a very interesting collection of pictures of library buildings with floor plans. As said above, 96 libraries are here represented on 125 quarto pages. Four monumental libraries head the list: the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library, the Columbia University Library and the more recent Widener Library at Harvard. The illustrations of these are very full, completely showing the plan of each building. There are also many small libraries, city branches, village libraries, college and professional libraries and government buildings at Toronto and Victoria. This part of the book is most attractive. It displays not so much the results of the Snead Company's work, as the quality of the patronage which they have secured.

W. R. E.

### Librarians

ASHHURST, John, has been elected librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. John Thomson. Mr. Ashhurst was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania College Department in 1887 and had charge of the West Philadelphia branch library from 1895 to 1898. Then he served one year as assistant at the main library and went to the Mercantile Library from 1901 to 1903. He returned to the Free Library as assistant librarian in 1904, and has held the post continuously until the present time.

BICKFORD, Frances H., Smith 1909, Simmons 1913, for the past five years connected with the Free Public Library of New Haven as assistant in the children's room, head of Fair Haven branch, and for the last two years as head of the school department, has resigned her position to take up work April 1 as librarian of the Bridgeport (Ct.) High School Library.

CLAXTON, Mrs. P. P., wife of the commissioner of education, and before her marriage one of the prominent librarians in the South, read a paper on the development of libraries in the United States before the Second Pan-American Congress, held in Washington in January.

GODDARD, Wm. D., who has been librarian of the Naval War College at Newport for the past seven years, assumed his new duties as librarian of the Deborah Cook Sayles Public Library of Pawtucket, R. I., Feb. 1, succeeding Mr. Dougherty, who has gone to Newton, Mass.

HAMLIN, Louise, Pratt 1909, has become assistant at the Morris High School Library in the Bronx.

HOWSON, Roger, who has been a bibliographer at Columbia University for some time, was formally appointed assistant librarian at the last meeting of the library trustees.

JETTINGHOFF, Mabel E., Pratt 1913, who has been since graduation first assistant in the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, has been appointed to the position of annotator and classifier in the cataloging department of that library.

KEOGH, Andrew, who has been acting librarian at Yale University since the death of Prof. John S. Schwab, was made librarian at the meeting of the Yale corporation, Mar. 20. Mr. Keogh was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. His college studies were at the Durham College of Science and he holds the degree of Master of Arts from Yale. He was reference librarian at the Newcastle Public Libraries from 1892 to 1898. Since 1899 he has been at Yale and since 1904 has held the position of reference librarian with the rank of professor. He has been librarian for the Elizabethan club at Yale since its organization and is a member of many important library and bibliographical associations of both America and England.

MCKILLOP, Samuel, librarian of the South Side branch of the Milwaukee Public Library for about twenty-three years, has been appointed director of extension by the library trustees. The new office will control all branch libraries, including school libraries, in Milwaukee county. Mr. McKillop started his library in a corridor of the old South high, when he was a freshman in that school, and when the South Side Educational Society became interested in a library for that section of Milwaukee. At the start this library was limited to the use of high school pupils. In two years it became a circulating library and was opened to the public, being moved from the corridor to a room in the building. It is now the second largest library in Wisconsin, located in a model building.

ROBERTS, Louise, Atlanta Library School 1915, has resigned her position as librarian of the West End branch of the Birmingham Public Library to become children's librarian in one of the branches of the Portland (Oregon) Public Library.

ROBESON, Julia G., Pratt 1904, has been made librarian of the newly opened Richmond Hill High School Library.

RUSH, Charles E., who has gone from the Public Library of St. Joseph, Mo., to Des Moines, Ia., was the recipient of a testimonial volume expressing the good will of the members of the library board and staff. The book is bound in limp brown morocco, with silk lining, and is the work of the library force. The marginal illuminations are beautifully wrought, and the scroll work is of a high order. In the volume are photographs of the three libraries in St. Joseph, a number of verses and quotations, the resolutions adopted by the library board, and the signatures of the board and staff. In the front is a reproduction of the private book plate of Librarian Rush, and at the end is one selected from the library collection of plates. A dinner for Mr. and Mrs. Rush and Jesse Cunningham, the new librarian, was given by members of the library staff, Mar. 9, and a farewell to Mr. Rush and a welcome to Mr. Cunningham was a feature of the Commerce Club luncheon Mar. 8.

SQUIER, Nellie, has resigned the librarianship of the Monson (Mass.) Free Library, a position she has held for twenty years.

STONE, Rachel N. T., has been appointed librarian for the new library to be opened in West Springfield, Mass.

SUTHERLAND, Florence, B.S., Simmons 1908, has resigned her position as first assistant librarian at the Seward Park branch of the New York Public Library, and has accepted the appointment as cataloger of the Kern County Free Library, Bakersfield, Cal.

SWEET, Maud, who has been connected with the Brooklyn Public Library for the past ten years, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library in Monson, Mass., her home town.

TILTON, Asa C., B.A. and Ph.D., Yale University, has been appointed assistant in the manuscript division of the New York Public Library, beginning March 1. Dr. Tilton was with the Wisconsin State Historical Society from 1904 to 1910, and at the Library of Congress from 1913 to 1915.

WILEY, Dr. Edwin, M.A., Ph.D., has been appointed librarian at the Naval War College in Newport, R. I., to succeed William D. Goddard, who has gone to Pawtucket, R. I. Dr. Wiley has been connected with the libraries of Vanderbilt, Tennessee and California Universities and assistant at the Library of Congress.

WILLIAMS, Mary, Pratt 1898, has been made medical librarian on the Laboratory Staff of the New York State Department of Health.

# THE LIBRARY WORLD

## New England

### MAINE

*Waterville.* Plans for a new library reading room have been submitted to the trustees of Colby College.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE

*New London.* The will of Amos H. Whipple of Boston leaves \$15,000 and a lot of land in trust for his mother's use during her life. On her death the trust is to terminate and the money and lot are to go to the inhabitants of the town of New London for the establishment of a public library, provided the town votes to accept it. The money must be used for the building, equipment and establishing of a library, on the Nelson lot, and to be known as the Whipple Memorial Library, in memory of his parents, Dr. Solomon Mason Whipple and Henrietta Kimball Whipple. In the event that the town does not accept, the fund reverts to the estate.

### VERMONT

*Burlington.* The report of the librarian of the Fletcher Free Library, George D. Smith, shows that during the year there has been a circulation of 93,186, which is the largest in the history of the library and a gain of 6145 over 1914. The average daily circulation was 306, and 1293 new borrowers were registered during the year. There was a total of 1192 new books purchased.

*Montpelier.* Bids on the new State Library building were opened in February, but as the lowest bids exceeded the appropriation of \$150,000 the plans must be altered before any award can be made.

*Townshend.* It was voted at the town meeting in March that no money be appropriated for the library this year, save that required by law. This means that no new books can be bought during the entire year and that either the rooms must be opened for a fewer number of hours, as the small sum required by law (\$25) is not nearly sufficient to pay the present salary of the librarian, insurance, etc., or a small reserve intended to be used for necessary bookcases must be used for these current expenses. About 2000 books have been given out from the library the past year.

### MASSACHUSETTS

*Athol.* The original Carnegie grant to this town of \$15,000 for a library building has been raised to \$22,000. The present library is in

a vacant store in the Lyric building. L. S. Starrett, president of the L. S. Starrett Company, has offered the town a site for the library near Starrett Square. There is some opposition to this place by persons who are in favor of the town taking over the Sally Fish property in the rear of the Pequoig Hotel, where municipal buildings can be erected in time.

*Brimfield.* A suitable approach to the library building has been constructed with the money given by Mrs. Mary Knight Hyde of Ware, a former resident of the town. The approach includes a walk of flat stones from Brimfield hillsides, entirely in keeping with the character of the building, which is of field stones, and is an enduring memorial of the interest in the library of one who has previously been its generous benefactor.

*Cambridge.* The Widener Library of Harvard has received a very valuable collection of Horace, the gift of William Cross Williamson '52, who died two years ago. The 105 volumes that constitute the collection were given to the library by his daughter, Mrs. Edes. The volumes range in date from 1501 to 1900. The bindings are exquisite and include the handiwork of many famous binders.

*Gardner.* The trustees of Heywood Memorial Library are planning to open a new and larger branch in West Gardner, to replace the branch recently destroyed by fire. An appropriation of \$1000 for doing the work was asked at the March meeting. The trustees have opened negotiations with Thomas Brazell for quarters on the second floor of his building at Vernon and Parker streets. These quarters are in the heart of the business district, and more centrally located than those formerly occupied by the branch.

*Hancock.* By the will of Miss Jennie A. Taylor of this town the sum of \$6000 is left for the erection of a concrete or brick building to be used as a public library and to be known as the "Taylor Library Building."

*Leicester.* The sum of \$3500 for a library building and \$1500 for its maintenance has been given to the town by Mrs. Judson Curtis of Chicago in memory of her father, Bradford Field. Karl Putnam of Northampton has prepared plans and it is hoped to begin construction in the spring.

*Lynn.* Plans for the new West Lynn Carnegie Library, as announced by the architect,

C. Vernon Burgess, provide for a one-story and basement flat roof building of second class construction. The walls are to be of tapestry brick. The building is to be laid out in cruciform plan with reading rooms on the right and left, off the central delivery hall. A store room, librarians' room and staff room are provided. A lecture room in the basement will accommodate 290 persons. Mr. Burgess expects the building to be erected by Sept. 1. It will be 74 feet long by 60 feet deep.

*Northampton.* A gift of four portraits in oil, three oil paintings and a collection of 48 miniatures, known as the Holland House collection, have been given to the Forbes Library by Mrs. Frances Sarah Bates of Boston. The portraits are all of members of old Northampton families, and have been hung in the reference room; the paintings and miniatures have been placed in the reading room.

*Rehoboth.* The Goff Memorial Building has been finished and dedicated. The building, which cost about \$40,000, contains a large hall and the library room on the main floor, a well equipped kitchen and dining-room in the basement, and two historical rooms on the third floor.

*Williamstown.* To house the collection of rare books which he presented to Williams College last May, Alfred C. Chapin, of the class of 1869, now proposes to erect a special fireproof building, and the entire matter has been referred to the committee on grounds, buildings and improvements, in conference with Mr. Chapin, with power to act. Since, in the opinion of the authorities, the building should be physically connected with the main library, the question of site and the style of the new building involves the question of a complete new library building to take the place of Lawrence Hall. No action upon an entire new structure has been taken, however. To fulfill the purposes of the giver, it is expected that the small building provided by Mr. Chapin for his collection will be about 50 feet long by about 25 feet wide, of fireproof construction and so arranged as to display and at the same time to protect the rarer books.

#### CONNECTICUT

*Bridgeport.* It is hoped that a few months' time will see the Bridgeport High School Library tripled in size. The present collection of books in the school library is a memorial to the late Alexander Wheeler, a graduate from the school in the early '90's. In the will of the late Edward Hallen, former judge of probate and member of the board of educa-

tion, \$500 was left to the city to be used as a fund for a memorial, and a Hallen collection in the new High School Library is suggested as a fitting reminder of his interest in the schools. An effort is also being made to raise a fund for a Somerset memorial section in the library, to commemorate the work of the late Miss Margaret Somerset, French teacher in the school. Although nothing has been determined, it is likely that the Somerset memorial will be of French literature and the Hallen memorial of technical books.

#### Middle Atlantic

##### NEW YORK

*Auburn.* *Seymour L.* Elizabeth Porter Clarke, Ibd. (Rpt.—1915.) The report shows a decided increase in the number of persons using the library. The number of card-holders is now nearly 7000, or more than one-fifth of the population. The circulation of books for the year was 82,184, and the reference use in the building 33,580, making the total use of books for 1915 of 115,764. The circulation of books from school and other stations also shows a large gain, nearly 10,000 volumes having been taken from the schools to the children's homes. This includes the books loaned from the Y. M. C. A. and the Woman's Union. The library also lends books to the rural schools. Over 150 Italians are drawing books from the collection in their own language. 1614 volumes were added to the library, making the total number of volumes in the library 27,625. The library has grown to such an extent that a new stack is much needed to shelf books for which there is no place on the over-crowded shelves. The addition of an upper stack seems a necessity and is under consideration. The project of opening the reading room on Sunday afternoons is also under consideration of the trustees.

*Carthage.* It is announced that the Corcoran Memorial Library will be built next spring and summer. The sum of \$15,000 was left in the will of the late Martha J. Corcoran for the building. The building will be erected on the site in Budd street purchased by the association early last fall.

*Herkimer.* The remodeling of the present library building in such manner as to double its book capacity is under consideration. The building, which was the residence of the late Judge Robert Earl, was bequeathed by him to the village for library purposes in 1895.

*Highland.* A free library was opened in January with a collection of about 600 books.

*Ithaca.* Fire destroyed Morse Hall, seat of the chemistry department of Cornell University, on Feb. 13. The loss is estimated at more than \$300,000. Valuable research work, the product of years of study, was consumed, and chemicals and apparatus were also lost. Several hundred students saved 5000 books from the library on the first floor, and the records of the department. The building was erected in 1890, and in 1891 Andrew Carnegie gave \$60,000 for an addition. It was valued at about \$200,000. The university carries that amount of insurance.

*Louisville.* A legacy of \$3000 has been left to the free library by the will of Mrs. Mary L. Chambers, conditioned on the purchase of a lot and the beginning of a library building within three years of the date of her death. A second legacy of \$1100 is provided for the library in the will of the late Mrs. W. L. Scott, subject to a life interest in behalf of a brother.

*Marlboro.* The entire stock of books and other property of the free library was destroyed by fire on Dec. 7, 1915. Fortunately the association had a good balance of cash in the treasury, and this, together with \$300 received from insurance, will provide for the immediate restoration of the library and its activities.

*New Paltz.* A site for a new library building has been given to the Free Library Association by the Huguenot National Bank.

*New York City.* The private library of the late professor of Greek, Fitz Gerald Tisdall, consisting of approximately a thousand volumes of historical, linguistic, and classical interest, has been donated to the City College by Mrs. Tisdall. These volumes are distributed among the Greek, Latin, history, and English departments. The collection is the work of a lifetime devoted to study and research. A bust of Professor Tisdall is included in the donation to the college.

*New York City.* Announcement was made that more than \$70,000 had been raised toward a new library for the College of the City of New York, at the alumni dinner of that institution held in the Savoy Hotel, Mar. 4. Pleas were made by several speakers for an additional \$80,000 which is necessary before the trustees of the college can take advantage of the city's offer of a site for the building. An anonymous donor has agreed to give the last \$30,000 needed to complete the desired \$150,000.

*New York City.* *United Engineering Soc.* L. W. P. Cutter, libn. (Rpt.—1915.) Accep-

sions 2535 books, 621 pamphlets, 58 maps; total books and pamphlets in library, 62,446. Total attendance was 12,820, and about 3000 inquiries were answered over the telephone. A Library Service Bureau was organized in May to care for the increasing demands made by members for reference lists, translations, and photostat copies, and each of the three Founder Societies contributed \$250 for its establishment. For this kind of service during the year there were received 307 requests for reference lists, 71 for translations, and 301 for photostat copies involving the making of about 2500 prints at a cost of \$600. During the year the library published the "Catalogue of technical periodicals" in preparation for three years, the cost of preparation and of printing and binding 1000 copies being \$1200. A plan of joint administration was adopted, by which each of the Founder Societies agrees that the future current purchase of books, periodicals, etc., for addition to the Joint Library shall be made and paid for by the United Engineering Society. Each society may still make additions to its own library under its own bookplate, and continuations of serials bought by the United Engineering Society shall carry the same bookplate and be the property of the society possessing the earlier numbers. The library made a study in March and April of the method in use for handling periodicals, which is described with some detail in "Library work" in this issue. The need of an index to technical literature is discussed, and the annual cost for publication is estimated at \$11,700 for salaries for the editorial staff and \$11,340 for publication expenses. No estimate of postage, stationery, and office supplies needed for the work is included.

*Oneonta.* A large lot on Ford avenue has been bought for a possible future site for a new library building. An indefinite option has also been secured on adjacent property. The building on the lot just purchased is being remodelled for a temporary home for the library.

*Schoharie.* Through the efforts of Schoharie Chapter, D. A. R., this village will have a free library. The committee appointed to solicit has raised \$125 in cash and at present time has over 600 books ready for the library.

*Seneca Falls.* Plans for a new library building have been adopted and contracts authorized. It is to cost about \$12,000, having a frontage of 63 feet and a depth of 35 feet. The cost is provided for in the award made for damages by the state in the construction of the new barge canal.

*Southampton.* The building of the Rogers Memorial Library is to be largely remodeled, transforming the large auditorium into two spacious rooms, one to be used as a children's room and the other as a room for the collection and exhibition of local history antiquities, relics and mementos. Special efforts are to be made to induce residents of the village to give or loan such articles and documents to the library. There has been provided for the proposed changes and improvements \$7455, of which \$3000 is from the village corporation, \$700 from entertainments, and \$3755 from individual donors.

*Spencerport.* The hundredth anniversary of the founding of the "Farmers Library Company of Ogden" (the early name of the town), was celebrated last December. It culminated in a large public banquet in the village hall served by the women in the town and attended by about 400 persons. Music was furnished by the village band and by other local talent. Addresses were made by W. F. Yust, head of the Rochester Public Library, J. R. Slater of the University of Rochester, and Judge John D. Lynn; letters were read from the State Education Department, and the veteran writer, J. T. Trowbridge, who has dwelt on the enjoyment he derived during his boyhood from the books in this collection, in the pages of "My own story"; and a comprehensive history of the library was read by its former president, Chauncy Brainerd.

#### NEW JERSEY

*Collingswood.* An appropriation of \$15,000 has been made by the Carnegie Corporation for a library building, and several sites are already under consideration.

*Dover.* The trustees of the Public Library are discussing the importance of a new building, as new quarters must soon be secured to accommodate the present library books and patrons. Many of the books are kept in the cellar and stored away in other places because of lack of proper shelving.

*Elizabeth.* Permission to use a portion of the Branch Library at Elizabeth avenue and Erie street for school purposes was granted the Board of Education in February at a meeting of the Board of Library Commissioners. The Board of Education requested the use of the south section of the first floor of the Branch Library in which to establish two classes for the remainder of the term. About seventy pupils comprise the two classes and the granting of the request will enable them to have school full time instead of part time.

*Long Branch.* Title to the Edward R. Slocum estate was taken Mar. 9 by the Long Branch Free Reading Room Association. The property has a frontage of 104 feet on Broadway and is more than 200 feet in depth, and adjoins the city hall. It is planned to build a Carnegie Library on the site and move the old homestead. The Library Association is willing to deed the land to the city if it will maintain the library.

*Plainfield P. L.* Florence M. Bowman, lbn. (Rpt.—yr. ending May 31, 1915.) Accessions 2430; total 52,580. Registration (new) 5829. Circulation 99,607; adult 73,901, juvenile 25,706; 64 per cent, adult fiction; 3717 volumes circulated through sub-stations, 3166 through school libraries, 3279 music scores. Receipts including balances on hand, \$19,213.24; disbursements \$11,409.65, including salaries \$5203.75; books \$2653.96; periodicals \$782.22; and binding \$344.67. The endowed scientific department numbers 9355 volumes; the endowed library of Americana 1237 volumes; the department of music 1924 volumes, and the law department 1857 volumes.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

*Pittsburgh.* The Conrad Dietrich estate has offered to build a branch library for the people of the North Side and to rent the building to the city for a nominal sum, \$600 a year. The Dietrich site is at Woods Run avenue and Brighton road. The sub-committee of the city council has under consideration five other sites that have been proposed. In the 1916 budget \$4500 was appropriated for the equipment of a branch library.

*York.* The Martin Library Association has been incorporated. Under the will of the late Milton D. Martin the sum of \$125,000 is now available outright for the purposes of the association, while \$60,000 additional is placed in a trust fund, the income of which is to be applied for the maintenance of the library. An additional \$8000 in cash is payable to the association after the death of Lizzie Harline, who receives the income during her life.

#### The South

##### GEORGIA

*Atlanta.* The South branch of Carnegie Library at Capitol and Georgia avenues, was occupied on March 1. The exterior is in the Spanish style of architecture, built of light pressed brick, with projecting red tile roof, window casements and frames of Pompeian green. This is the second of the four branches to occupy its own building, the other being

the Anne Wallace branch on Luckie street. The Oakland City branch occupies rented quarters and the Uncle Remus branch has quarters in the Uncle Remus home. The South branch had its beginning in November, 1914, when L. M. Dodd, of 162 East Georgia avenue, offered the library space in the back of his store to place a deposit of books. From this little deposit in the rear of a store over 30,000 books have been circulated in the last year. The Carnegie Corporation gave \$17,000 for the building, thus making a total of \$177,000 that the city has received from the Corporation for library buildings.

*Savannah.* Construction of the new library is progressing satisfactorily, according to H. W. Witcover, architect, who states that the building will be completed and ready for occupancy during the month of June. All of the exterior granite walls had been completed in February, and work on the interior finish was commenced in March. The building is two stories high, with a basement. The entire building is of fireproof construction. The floors and roof are of reinforced concrete and the partitions are of brick and terra-cotta blocks. The total cost of the building, including furniture and equipment, will be about \$80,000. The building will accommodate 60,000 volumes. The present library has more than 50,000 volumes of which 28,000 will be turned over to the new library.

#### ALABAMA

*Huntsville.* The new Carnegie Library which cost \$12,500 was opened to the public Feb. 29 with a book shower which was largely attended. The number of books contributed, with the previous donations, gave the library a fairly good start. Miss Carolyn Burke has been placed in charge as librarian.

#### TENNESSEE

*Nashville.* The new negro Public Library was formally opened Feb. 10 in the presence of a large audience. G. H. Bandy of the negro board of trade presided. Addresses were made by G. H. Baskette, president of the board of directors; by Alfred E. Howell, a member of the board, Miss Margaret Kercheval, librarian, and others. Music was furnished by students from Fisk University, Roger Williams and Pearl High School. The new building, which is located on Twelfth avenue, north, opposite St. Joseph's church, was erected at a cost of \$25,000, the money being provided by the Carnegie Corporation. This is the second branch library and the first for the colored people.

#### MISSISSIPPI

A bill to encourage the establishment of county free libraries in Mississippi has been introduced in the lower house. The measure bears the indorsement of the Mississippi Library Association, and is very similar in its provisions to the California state library law.

*Biloxi.* A movement for the establishment of a Carnegie Library is being urged by a number of citizens. The city needs a public library but has none, excepting the one operated by the King's Daughters.

*Gulfport.* Those interested in securing the establishment of a Carnegie Library here have petitioned the county board of supervisors for the lot at the southwest corner of the county court house site. The matter has been taken under advisement by the board.

*Laurel.* In order that a donation may be secured for the erection of a Carnegie Library, it is probable that the city commissioners will arrange for a new census of the city of Laurel. The last federal census, taken in 1909, gave Laurel 8862 people, and it is believed a careful census will now show somewhere between 13,000 and 15,000 population.

*Yazoo City.* Mrs. Fannie J. Ricks has presented a building valued at \$8000 to the Yazoo Library Association. She has already given the \$20,000 building and several other substantial gifts to the city.

#### LOUISIANA

*Mohroe.* Following a conference with Miss Lutie Stearns as adviser, a committee of business men announced that they would personally guarantee the first year's salary of a trained librarian to be chosen by Miss Stearns. It was understood that at the end of that time the city will take full control of the library, providing for the salary of the librarian.

*Opelousas.* A movement to secure Opelousas a Carnegie Library is being vigorously pushed. The nearest approach to a public library here is that maintained by the High School for the benefit of the pupils.

#### The Central West

##### MICHIGAN

*Detroit P. L.* Adam Strohm, lbn. (50th ann. rpt.—yr. ending June 30, 1915.) Accessions 36,012; total 329,675. New registration 35,156; total 100,294. Circulation 1,491,034. Receipts \$554,392.27, including a bond issue for \$314,336.19 for the new main building. Expenditures for maintenance \$208,684.58, in-

cluding \$39,987.25 for books, \$3500 for periodicals, \$10,657.39 for binding, and \$114.577.01 for staff salaries.

The report is prefaced by a detailed exposition by the president of the library commission of the history of the new main building from the first agitation nearly fifteen years ago, to the starting of work on the foundations early in 1915, and the application for an additional bond issue of \$750,000.

#### OHIO

*Cincinnati.* The Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce is planning to establish a reference library of information about export trade, tariffs, etc. Miss Helen Waldsworth, principal assistant in the foreign trade department of the chamber of commerce, has spent several weeks in Washington, making a study of the methods of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce in promoting export trade.

*Paulding.* The new Paulding County Library was opened early in March, with 4000 volumes on the shelves.

#### INDIANA

*Albion.* The Carnegie Corporation has granted \$10,000 for a new library building. The present library was founded eighteen months ago and now has more than 2000 volumes.

*Carlisle.* A Carnegie building costing \$10,000 is to be erected here for the town of Carlisle and Haddon township. Plans are now being drawn and the building will be erected this summer.

*Fort Wayne.* The children's department of the Fort Wayne Public Library has grown so fast in the past year that the librarians in charge have found themselves cramped and unable to develop the full efficiency of the department in their present quarters, and as the result a large workroom for the children's director and her assistants has been installed in the basement floor and a new stairway built to connect it with the children's room. Other improvements in the library building include the placing of new files and tables in the reading rooms on the second floor devoted to government documents and newspaper storage.

*Owensville.* The town of Owensville and Montgomery township, Gibson county, have reached an agreement to maintain a Carnegie Library, for which a grant of \$12,500 has been made. The library building will be erected in the middle of the park which forms the public square at Owensville. It will be of dark Rugby brick with Bedford stone trimmings

and red tile roof. In the basement will be an assembly hall and public comfort stations. The main floor will contain juvenile and adult reading rooms. The building will be 39 by 59 feet.

*Rockport.* Not waiting until the \$17,000 Carnegie building is erected the library board has opened the library in temporary quarters in the rear of the Farmers' bank. The library started with close to nine hundred volumes.

*Vincennes.* The Carnegie grant of \$30,000 for a public library building has been increased to \$35,000. The increase resulted from appeals made to the Carnegie Corporation by the city officials and the school board, who cited the fact that Vincennes had grown more in the last year than in 10 years previous, and that a slogan of "Fifty Thousand by 1920" had been adopted. The city intends to purchase a lot at a cost of \$18,000, if the city council votes the annual maintenance of \$3500 for the upkeep of the building.

*Winchester.* The Carnegie Library building was opened to the public for the first time, Feb. 21, when the Indiana traveling art exhibit was displayed by the Woman's Club. The schools of Randolph county also had displays of their manual training and domestic science.

#### ILLINOIS

*Lockport.* A petition was in circulation here in February to have the new two-mill tax assessed for library purposes. This would yield \$7000 annually, enough to provide site and books and maintenance for the building the Carnegie Corporation might grant.

### The Northwest

#### WISCONSIN

*Shawano.* The new \$10,000 Carnegie Public Library was dedicated Feb. 22, with exercises at the library assembly room. M. S. Dudgeon of Madison, secretary of the State Library Commission, made the principal address. The library building is 32 x 60 feet. The basement floor has an assembly room, directors room and a kitchen, and it will be generally used by societies for various gatherings. The library proper is on the main floor.

*South Milwaukee.* Plans for the Public Library granted by the Carnegie Corporation have been completed by Charlton & Kuenzli, architects. It will cost \$15,000, will be of brick with stone trimming, one story and basement, 34 by 66 feet. On the first floor there will be a general reading room, a chil-

dren's room, the librarian's office, delivery and cloak rooms. There will be an assembly hall, 35 by 31.6 feet; recreation, boiler and work rooms in the basement.

*Superior.* The city council has authorized the purchase of four branch library sites, and bonds for \$40,000 have been sold to the sinking fund trustees.

#### MINNESOTA

*St. Paul.* Plans are being made to establish a branch of the St. Paul Public Library in Merriman Park. Fifty business men of that section have decided to appoint committees to purchase a site and raise funds. The proposed site is on the north side of Marshall avenue, between Fairview and Dewey avenues.

#### IOWA

*Davenport P. L.* Grace D. Rose, Ibd. (13th ann. rpt.—yr. ending Dec. 31, 1915.) Circulation, 192,098, an increase of 17,823 over 1914, and an average of 4 books per capita of the population. New readers registered, 1997; total registration 11,341, 24 per cent of the population. Library contains 42,669 volumes. Income for the year \$26,169.49, of which \$4186.58 was spent for books, \$1158.35 for binding, \$7549.90 for salaries. A special feature noted was the observation of "Boys' book week" in November when special books were exhibited and an entertainment given for the boys in the library club rooms. Two new deposit stations were opened during the year.

*East Moline.* The possibility of securing a new library building through the Carnegie Corporation is under discussion here. The library now contains about 900 volumes.

*Greenfield.* The contract for the new library building has been let to Lloyd D. Willis of Omaha.

#### NEBRASKA

*College View.* After a delay of seven months the new Carnegie Library was dedicated Feb. 5.

*Omaha P. L.* Edith L. Tobitt, Ibd. (Rpt.—1915.) Accessions 6052; total 105,870. Circulation 418,154, exclusive of single plays, pamphlets, stereoscopic pictures, plates from reference books, or stereopticon slides, all of which were lent freely upon request. The circulation of books in foreign languages was 14,672, including French, German, Danish, Italian, Yiddish, Bohemian, Spanish, Swedish, and Russian. Registration 27,101, 12% of the population of Greater Omaha. There were 86,727 visitors to the reading and reference rooms. The two most prominent features of the library's work during the year were the

establishment of the High School branch library and the adjustment of the South Omaha library system to that of Omaha, following annexation. The High School branch is supported jointly by the Board of Education and the library board and is for the use of the pupils and teachers of the High School. The work is under the supervision of the library board. The South Omaha branch is situated close to the business center of the South Side and within a short distance of several of the largest public and parochial schools and is well placed to obtain the greatest use by the people of the locality. The classroom at the Main Library had almost daily use and the lecture room at the South Omaha branch was used frequently by the Woman's Club and various musical organizations. Both rooms are available for the free use of the public for all educational purposes.

#### NORTH DAKOTA

*Bismarck.* Bismarck went on record emphatically in favor of a public library at a special election Feb. 28. The board of education must now select a library board, in which will be vested the management of the institution. An appropriation has been provided in the budget in anticipation of this election which becomes available as soon as the board is formed. It is likely that a meeting of the school board will be held soon to name the board so that no time will be lost in employing a trained librarian to take charge of the temporary quarters established in the Commercial Club rooms. This ends an agitation begun many years ago and assures some kind of a library for the city. There is a strong sentiment in the city in favor of accepting the Carnegie offer of a \$25,000 building, the city to provide a site and appropriate at least \$2500 a year for its maintenance.

#### SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota had 143 traveling libraries in the field the first of January, and expected to add 20 more within a short time. A glance at the directory for the traveling libraries reveals some interesting facts about the system. Forty-five libraries are located in residences, twenty in stores of a general nature, sixteen in schools, ten in drug stores, eight in public libraries, seven in post offices, and the remainder in banks, parish houses, club rooms, newspaper offices, hotels, town halls, and general offices. The most unique location for a traveling library, however, is in the car belonging to the county agent of Codington county. At his own suggestion, a library was sent to

A. W. Palm, which he takes with him on his trips around the country, exchanging books wherever they are wanted. In this way, without additional expense to the Commission, good reading is taken to the very doors of the farm houses. Mr. Palm is not a trained librarian, but he knows his people, and he knows good books, and he is enthusiastic about bringing the one to the other.

*Flandreau.* During the meeting of the State Federation of Women's Clubs last October, so much enthusiasm for a public library was aroused that rooms were secured in the county court house, on condition that the library be free and accessible to all citizens in the county. The library is known as the Moody County Public Library, and opened with over 800 volumes. Mrs. George Chorpenning was made librarian.

#### MONTANA

*Plains.* The town council has been requested to take over the Public Library now supported entirely by public subscription, and the proposal will be put before the voters at the regular spring town meeting.

#### The Southwest

##### MISSOURI

*St. Joseph.* Bids for the addition to the main library building were asked for, March 15. The addition is to be 68 x 62 feet, three stories, and all but one room will be used for museum purposes. A reading room for the library will be on the second floor, just north of the room now used for this purpose, and west of the stack room. The reading room will be 50 x 30 feet. The present reading room will be used for other library purposes, the main library now being crowded for room.

##### KANSAS

*Topeka.* Members of the Masonic Grand Lodge, whose sixtieth annual communication closed Feb. 17, raised the amount to be spent in erecting a new library and administration building at Eighth and Harrison streets to \$100,000. Plans already prepared by New York architects for a building costing \$75,000 were exhibited to the grand lodge by means of stereopticon slides. Dismantling the old building will begin early in April.

##### TEXAS

*Vernon.* The Carnegie Corporation has approved the plans submitted for a library building, and has made a grant of \$12,500 for its construction.

##### COLORADO

*Denver.* Four new distributing stations have

been opened by the Public Library, to keep pace with the growing demand for library books.

#### The Pacific Coast

##### WASHINGTON

*Tacoma.* A petition has been circulated among residents of the North End, asking to have the old Mason Library reopened. It has been closed since the removal of Whitworth College to Spokane two years ago.

##### OREGON

*Portland P. L.* Mary Frances Isom, Lib. (Rpt.—yr. ending Oct. 31, 1915.) Accessions 31,916; total 225,560 volumes, 18,998 pamphlets. New registration 22,141; total 80,317. Circulation 1,385,964. Receipts \$206,604.85; expenditures \$157,781.74, including \$23,754.84 for books, \$6,236.75 for binding, \$3,050.24 for periodicals, and \$100,745.70 for salaries.

Besides the Central Library, there are 16 branches, 1 municipal reference library, 37 deposit stations, 4 high school libraries, 602 class room libraries in school district No. 1, and 91 class room libraries in rural schools. The circulation records show an increase of 101,462 or 7.8% over 1914. Stated in another way, the circulation increase was 2% at the Central Library, 14% in the branches, and 24% in the deposit stations. A total of 2483 lectures and meetings were held in library buildings, with an approximate attendance of 108,926. The pressing need of branches in three districts is mentioned, in anticipation of the preparation of the 1917 budget.

##### CALIFORNIA

*Berkeley.* The University of California Library, of which the first portion was built some years ago, at a cost of \$684,000, met by bequest from Charles Franklin Doe, is now to be completed. The regents of the University of California have further contracts for this work to the amount of \$381,000. The total cost of completing the library, including steel bookstacks, will be approximately \$525,000, this cost being defrayed from the university building bonds voted by the people of California a year ago. The plans for the completion of the building include increase of the shelf capacity from three hundred to five hundred thousand volumes; the provision of space in which additional bookstacks for another half-million volumes can eventually be installed; the building of a reading room large enough for about three hundred readers; provision of space for a library school, and provision for a large number of additional seminar rooms.

*Gridley.* The new Public Library was formally dedicated and opened to the public March 15.

*Riverside.* Ernest S. Moulton, member of the Board of Directors of the Riverside Public Library, died February 4. As president of the First National Bank of Riverside, and a leader in civic affairs, he was probably the best known man in this community, and to his influence was due much of the success of the Public Library here.

*San Francisco.* The concrete work and steel frame of the new Public Library building were practically finished the first of February and it is expected to have the granite work finished by August. January, 1917, should see the building in use, unless unexpected delay occurs.

*Sanger.* The trustees accepted the new Carnegie library building from the contractor early in March, and have made arrangements for the removal of the books from the old building, which is located across the track. The new library cost \$10,000, and is built upon standard lines for modern libraries. It is of pressed brick, with cement trimmings.

*Turlock.* The contract for the Carnegie Library has been awarded for the sum of \$8350. Bowen & Davis, of Fresno, are the architects. The building will stand at the corner of North Broadway and Spring streets. The money for the purchase of the site, \$1950, was raised by public subscription through the efforts of the Woman's Improvement Club.

#### UTAH

*Salt Lake City.* A county library bill similar to those in effect in Ohio, Wyoming, and California will be introduced in the next legislature, if plans set on foot by Miss Mary E. Downey have a chance to mature.

#### Canada

##### ONTARIO

*Guelph P. L.* A. M. Harris, libn. (Rpt.—1915.) Accessions 801; discards 993; total on shelves 17,404. Circulation, adult, 52,122, juvenile, 15,878; total 68,000. Registration 2586 (512 juvenile). Receipts \$4,662.57; expenditures \$4,584.43, including \$1,602.75 for salaries, \$543.55 for books, \$270.22 for periodicals, and \$199.35 for binding.

#### Foreign

##### GREAT BRITAIN

*Aberdeen.* A collection of chamber music, said to be the finest of its kind in Scotland,

has been added to the music section of the library, thereby greatly increasing its usefulness.

#### DENMARK

*Copenhagen.* The report for 1914-15 of the Copenhagen City Public Library shows a circulation for the year of 568,651 books to 13,315 borrowers. The reading room was visited by 150,100 persons. The year's expenses were 90,092 kroners of which 28,634 went for new books and bindings, and 59,213 kr. for the running expenses. The city gave an appropriation of 82,160 kr. The library has ten branches and lending stations. Mayor Dybdal is chairman of the Board of Directors, City Librarian J. Aarsbo is librarian in charge, with 22 assistant librarians, eight attendants and assistant pupils. The report does not give the number of accessions for the year, but an interesting account of certain lines of books most called for is added. In the list of favorite English fiction, Conan Doyle with "The adventures of Sherlock Holmes" and Jack London with "The call of the wild" lead, while Kipling's "Jungle books," Jerome's "Three men in a boat" and Dickens' "David Copperfield" run them a close second. "De profundis," by Oscar Wilde, is also a favorite. The report adds that the proportion of women who visit the library is still only half the number of men, and that women still ask mainly for books that entertain. But an improvement in this condition is slowly gaining ground, attributed by the librarians to woman's greater participation in public life, awakening her interest in instructive literature. The proportion of women visitors to the reading room is still very small but the librarians are endeavoring to awaken the interest of school girls in the lower grades and accustom them to what the library offers for their study and their entertainment.

#### GERMANY

*Munich.* The Royal Court and State Library has opened new and better rooms for its music and map collections. The latter is housed in a fine new reading room where the shelves are much more convenient than before, and the facilities for study vastly improved. A novelty in the map department is its inclusion of the works of the State Geodetic Survey, by which publications of the survey are open to students with much less expense and inconvenience than when they are to be had only from the government itself. The music collection of the library is particularly rich in valuable manuscripts. It now has its own particular "war collection" of music inspired by the war.

## LIBRARY WORK

Notes of developments in all branches of library activity, particularly as shown in current library literature

### ADMINISTRATION

The internal working of a public library. Arthur E. Bostwick. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916. p. 56-57.

"What is here set down is in response to a request from the editor for an expression on certain topics, the first of which is 'the present state of professional interest among library assistants.' In the first place, is librarianship a profession? Shall we restrict the profession to holders of library-school degrees? At any rate we may assert that if librarianship is a profession not all, or perhaps not many, assistants are members of it. But hair-splitting aside, how many library assistants take genuine interest in their work? Rather more, I believe, than workers in other occupations. The very fact that they are underpaid tends to assure this. But taking them by and large, the majority are still untrained, despite our library schools and training classes, our institutes and meetings, although our higher grades are now pretty fit for their work. The great cause of weakness is inability to rise above routine; failure to see that fresh ideas, initiative, sympathy with one's work, and a desire to improve and extend it are what every live administrator is looking for, what he is anxious to reward. We would rather reject a dozen impractical suggestions, restrain a dozen false starts, for the sake of encouraging and accepting a single one. The Boss is not fulfilling his obligations if he simply holds every one down to an iron system of his own, under the false impression that he has created an ideal machine, and that the duties of the members of his staff begin and end with being simply the cogs and wheels of it."

The internal affairs of a library. Chalmers Hadley. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916. p. 57-59.

"I know of no other workers to-day," says Mr. Hadley, of the Denver Public Library, "aside from those in religious fields, where more zealous, cheerful, disinterested service is given than by the great body of library assistants in this country. There is no goal in library work toward which any assistant cannot legitimately aspire, and those lacking the formal, technical training of the library school may have compensations through an unusual endowment of native ability, the power to work, and common sense. Criticism has been passed on the library assistant who changes positions solely for an increase in

salary. With few exceptions library workers are given no protection against poverty-stricken old age, and no librarian should object to an assistant going elsewhere if he cannot compete with salaries paid. Just criticism, however, can be passed on the increasing number of library assistants who repeatedly embarrass the library and its head by their craze to change positions, seemingly for the sake of change. This desire seems especially to have afflicted library school graduates. In combatting this restlessness a librarian will do well, particularly when increased salaries cannot be administered as a tonic, by giving a change in work to the various departmental assistants.

"The relations between a library employe and her fellow workers will become strained if she comment on the institution or its staff to any member of the library board. This is permissible only when information is officially requested."

### AMERICAN LIBRARY INSTITUTE

The field of the American Library Institute. A letter to the fellows of the Institute, by Dr. E. C. Richardson of Princeton, the newly-elected president. From the printed proceedings of the Atlantic City meeting, 1915. p. 7-12.

Dr. Richardson, according to this statement, "was hardly in favor of the foundation of the Institute, and has all along been somewhat at a loss to grasp any definite reason for its being. Its casual discussions have been pleasant and profitable to those sharing in them, but at best they have merely duplicated a function of the American Library Association now more naturally and better performed by the A. L. A. Council. On looking into the matter, however, on Dr. Hill's suggestion, it seemed possible that the trouble was functional rather than organic. The constitutional object of the Institute is the 'study and discussion of library problems,' and it is only necessary to emphasize *study* to give a real field and object for the Institute. Once emphasize the study side, and there is a field almost untouched by the A. L. A., but clearly recognized in all branches of the educational world. It is nearly the difference between study and teaching, research and application, learning and technology, science and method. It is the difference between the American Historical Association and an As-

sociation of American History Teachers; it is the difference between the American Philological Psychological, Oriental, Modern Language, etc., Associations, and the National Education Association. The A. L. A. stands for library economy, or library technology, or applied library science; the A. L. I. might stand for library science as science, and for learning, but learning, of course, as to the most useful as well as ornamental library matters. If the object of the A. L. I. were paraphrased to read 'to promote research, literature, learning and higher education in the book sciences and to assist in the organization of co-operative methods for reference libraries,' this would provide a definite aim along recognized lines of actual usefulness, and one differentiated from the work of the A. L. A. There is just as great a line of higher education tasks in the book sciences as there is in any of the lines taught in the universities. Even palaeography, which is one of the few higher learning matters taught, is not very much taught in the universities, and when taught is not at all co-ordinated with the book sciences. Moreover, such teaching as there is, in the matter of book illustration, prints, book binding, the bibliographical history of science in all its departments, and many other things, is undeveloped and unsystematic. In the matter of research, why is it not as creditable and desirable that research be carried on in the field of libraries as that it should be carried on in the other recognized lines? Take, again, the matter of archaeology. The mass of material gathered in anthropology, Oriental, Greek and Roman archaeology in the last twenty-five years is full of information relating to the nature and forms of books, the history of their transmission and their keeping in libraries, and this is almost wholly untouched as yet, although it is of fascinating interest to one who is at all concerned in the unfolding of the human mind in civilization. Many of the highest co-operation tasks are in the field of the learned rather than the popular libraries. The demand in this field is getting more definite, and will in itself produce a new association if the Institute does not take the field."

#### ASSISTANTS

The trials and tribulations of an assistant. Martha J. Brown. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916. p. 76-77.

"Usually the assistant hardly dares to breathe the fact that she has such things as trials. I am going to tell the impolite truth.

Almost all library troubles come from within the library itself. A lack of co-operation to my mind is the greatest cause of trials and tribulations, and I mean the kind of co-operation that extends from the librarian down to the janitor. How often the well formulated plans thought out by the librarian are never communicated in any way to his staff, who are left groping in the deepest ignorance of what they are supposed to be working toward and yet intelligent service is expected of those assistants! Neither all librarians nor all assistants are easy to work with, and it is too bad that librarians ever have to inherit their assistants from a board. They should be allowed to select them, so that they can take into careful consideration personality, temperament, etc. To welcome suggestions probably does more than any other one thing to help an assistant to a larger view of the work. Nothing looks like a blessing to an assistant who has worked too many hours or been kept too long at one kind of work. And then there is the much-bemoaned small salary, and the much-talked-of A. L. A. troubles, which are first cousins to the salary troubles. There are large troubles and small troubles, but a sympathetic co-operation does much to lessen the more enduring kind."

#### —PERSONAL LIFE

Some aspects of our personal life. Josephine Adams Rathbone. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916. p. 53-56.

The vice-director, school of library science, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, prepared this paper as the basis for a talk to the staff of the Public Library of Trenton, N. J. "It is a great mistake," says the writer, "to draw the sharp distinction between our personal and our professional life that many do. The happiest and most efficient lives are the most completely unified. Success in our work is only a by-product of our personal life. It may be safely said that with due attention to the laws of health, with proper food, sleep, air and exercise, any normal human being can keep fit. Therefore to keep fit is a duty. For example, the cataloger needs more regular, carefully planned exercise than the circulation department worker or children's librarian, and probably less food, or at least less meat and heavy food. She also probably needs more variety and social life. But all, whatever their work, will be better all days for a few simple setting-up exercises—five minutes is enough—each morning, just to start the circulation. So simple a matter as the drinking of water morning and night is of great benefit. But the sound body is chiefly of

value as the home of a sound mind and as the instrument of a vital, informing spirit. I am not going to take up your time by trying to prove that you all ought to read during your leisure. It really isn't a matter of duty, but of pleasure. But I do want to emphasize this one thing: try to make vital connection between your reading and your work. If you are working among Italians, read up about Italy, its wonderful history, its art, its great men; read stories of life in Italy—Verga, Fogazzaro, Serao—that you may have a more sympathetic understanding of the people, their natural characteristics, their civilization, their background. If your contacts with books are largely technical, develop an interest in books as books. Or take up book illustration and you will find your interest wandering out and embracing all the arts of reproduction, engraving, etching, lithographing, photo-presses—there is simply no end to the variety and extent of the lines of interest that center in the book."

#### —RELATIONS WITH LIBRARIANS

What an assistant expects of a librarian. Lenore Weissborn. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916. p. 73-75.

"Many interesting and helpful papers have from time to time been read on that inevitable subject, 'What the librarian expects of an assistant.' Revenge is sweet. I invite you, Librarians, to sharpen your mental pencils and be prepared to jot a bit in your mental notebooks those hints which may be of value in rendering your assistant's lives more happy ones. If a veil of secrecy is thrown over the doings and sayings of our superiors and directors we cannot be blamed for whispering in the stacks. We must divulge everything to the inquiries of our institutions, must answer a why for this and a wherefore for that—we must even divulge our own true ages to the records. We ask in return that we may not be left standing as some deluded audience to wonder what is going on behind the scenes. We like to be confident that we can go to our executive in a perfectly free and frank fashion, and tell him our troubles and perplexities, and that he will listen in a friendly way without thinking us fault-finding and discontented. Let us assistants share your responsibilities, Librarians, but bear in mind that we cannot do it until you have laid low the unsurmountable wall of monarchial aloofness which most of you have built around yourselves.

"It is only natural that an assistant in a

well governed library should look upon as her ideals many of the qualities which she daily admires in her own executive."

ASSOCIATIONS AND CLUBS. *See American Library Institute*

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Unselfish nature of bibliographical labor in the last century. Raymond C. Davis. *Pub. Libs.*, Ja., 1916. p. 1-3.

Prof. Davis, who is librarian emeritus of the University of Michigan, has been led to a consideration of the "labor of love" manifested in bibliographical literature, by a recent reading of Dr. Poole's preface to the 1882 edition of his "Index to periodical literature," in which it is stated that "persons who look only to pecuniary reward should never engage in this kind of work." Dr. Poole felt himself well repaid by the satisfaction he experienced, although his toil was utterly unrequited in any material way.

"Dr. Poole's case is not without parallels," says Prof. Davis. "Of a similar nature was the experience—with additional sad features—of the authors of some of the best known catalogs of the last century." He quotes M. Paul Deschamp, who supplemented the work of Brunet, the creator of the *Manuel du Libraire*, to the effect that the bibliographer's toil is "ill considered, profitless, hard, evil spoken of." Prof. Davis adds that what has impressed him most in the careers of Dr. Robert Watt and Lownde is that their labors were performed under difficulties, their pecuniary profit was practically nothing, and their fame posthumous. The compiler of Lownde's "Biographer's manual" died in England in 1843, a mere wreck, mentally and physically. And Dr. Watt, who created the *Bibliotheca Britannica*, "died a martyr to bibliography" doing his last work on his death bed. Prof. Davis says that we, too, have had our martyr to the same cause in Mr. Frederick Leyboldt of New York, whose 1876 "American catalog" started "that fairly adequate and continuous record of American books that ever since has made the buying and selling of them so satisfactory." His death resulted, in 1884, from his many unselfish labors.

But "the old order changeth." The extraordinary increase of libraries and the alliances formed by them with the educational work of the country have modified conditions. One might even say now that such work paid. However, "the greater efficiency of

the present should not be permitted in any way to obscure the fine fibre of which these men were, and what they brought to pass."

**BINDING.** *See also* Periodicals, Handling of.

—PAMPHLETS AND PERIODICALS

The issue of the *Bodleian Quarterly Record* for the fourth quarter of 1915, describes briefly on page 209 the four ways of treating books or pamphlets now in use at the Bodleian Library.

"Nearly all the substantial volumes, and all books likely to be much used, are bound in the usual way, with variations of material, color and style. But large-sized periodicals which are not likely to be much called for are 'cased,' that is, inserted unbound in a framework resembling a volume, of which the back and lower edges are wood, the front open, and the sides mill-board.

"This is filled without regard to the period covered; it may be a year's numbers, or more, or less; the facts are noted on the back. For smaller sizes of periodicals and for pamphlets these cases are not found to be much cheaper than binding, and this class is 'boxed,' i.e., placed loose in cardboard boxes of five or six standard sizes, costing about 3d each on the average; in this matter we have borrowed the idea from Cambridge. Lastly the British Museum has shown us a system of 'self-binding,' in which two cardboard sides, and a flexible back of cloth are adapted to receive one, or at most two, pamphlets, by having attached to the back two gummed guards. You open the cover, moisten the gummed surfaces, place the pamphlet or two pamphlets between the gummed surfaces, close the cover, and lay it aside till dry. The advantage of doing this within the walls of the library is obvious, and the system may be recommended to private collectors who wish to reduce their binding bills. The cloth can be so chosen as to allow a written title on the back."

BOOKSTACKS

Library stack construction. Illustrated and described in the *Official Gazette* of the United States Patent Office. Feb. 26, 1916. Vol. 223, p. 941.

Eight claims are allowed for this patent, five of which are printed in the *Gazette*. The patent has been assigned to the Art Metal Construction Company of Jamestown, N. Y.

**BORROWERS.** *See* Readers, Non-resident—Rules for

BRANCHES—IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

In a lecture before the Milwaukee Library Club in February, Purd B. Wright, the librarian of the Kansas City Public Library, told of the branch libraries in school buildings in Kansas City.

"We now have, besides our main library, four blocks from the business center, twelve branch libraries," he said. "Of these, two are settlement libraries, one for colored people, and a new experimental one is in Little Italy. As most of these libraries are attached to schools, they cost little compared to your branch in Bay View. We pay only for the square feet we occupy. We have our own entrance, and our own lighting and heating systems, so it is not necessary to light and heat the entire building on those days when we only open the library. All libraries, except the main one, are open Sundays.

"These branch libraries are of distinctly different types. The first is the 'minor civic center library,' so near the business district that business people will drop in. The second is the 'neighborhood branch.' These, together with the 'settlement branches,' in Jewish and Italian districts, have become regular social centers. One of our branches, in a district where there are seven hospitals, makes it a business to cater to the nurses. The colored library is near a vocational school for colored people, and the demand we have from these pupils for the different vocational books can hardly be supplied.

"We are now making slides to show what the libraries are doing. These slides will be shown at women's clubs, before men's societies, etc., and we expect to get the adults of Kansas City to come to the library by this method.

"Eight out of ten of these libraries were built with \$2,000,000 from a \$4,000,000 bond issue. The branch library, built in connection with a school, costs less than if built like your Bay View branch; in fact, you can build several for what that cost and cover a larger territory and reach many more people."

**BUILDINGS.** *See* Bookstacks

BULLETIN BOARDS

One means which an Ohio library has found effective in securing new patrons is a bulletin board at the entrance to the building. On this are placed the best photo reproductions from newspaper supplements illustrative of current events. Books dealing with the same subjects are placed in a nearby rack. This combination of pictures and books brings new readers into the library.

CATHOLICS, BOOKS FOR. *See* Index Librorum Prohibitorum

CHILDREN, WORK WITH

An interesting experiment has been tried in the children's room of the library at Wellesley, Mass. Picture covers of books purchased during the year, the titles being removed, have been placed on the bulletin boards three at a time for a few days and the children have been allowed to guess what book is represented. They could look on the shelves constantly to help decide and each child could vote once. At the end of the contest a book was presented to the boy and the girl guessing the largest number.

A Library League has been formed in the Lowell (Mass.) Public Library through the efforts of Miss Bertha G. Kyle, the children's librarian, to promote and foster the love of good reading among children; to encourage the purchase of the best books for children; and to co-operate with the city library toward these ends.

At the present time there are over one hundred members in the Library League, 26 of these members being adults. Those under fifteen years of age who join the league pledge themselves to handle all library books carefully; to be quiet and orderly in the children's room or in any part of the city library; to invite others to join the Library League, and to try to interest them in good books.

The active members of the league must be registered as card holders at the library. There is also a clause, or an agreement, for associate members (young people over fifteen and adults) which reads as follows: "The object of the Library League meet with my approval; and I will lend it my support in some of the ways indicated over my signature."

Those who sign the agreement stipulate one or more of the following things:

- I agree to interest residents of neighborhood in objects of Library League.
- Obtain information concerning the best literature for children.
- Observe the kind of books children are reading.
- Use influence in promoting the sale of the best juvenile literature in Lowell.
- Assist in making the best children's books popular throughout the city.
- Advocate careful book-buying at Christmas time.
- Encourage children to begin carefully chosen libraries of their own.
- Read aloud to children.
- Take an interest in children's reading matter in hospitals and institutions.
- Introduce topic of children's reading in club or social circle.
- Encourage children and parents to visit the children's room in the city library.
- Take charge of a "Home Library" group.
- Give talks on literary topics.
- Conduct story hours.

Interest Library League groups in nature study, and act as guide on "hikes."

Assist in bringing a knowledge of books to blind children.

Take interest in Sunday school library.

Circulate city library book lists.

Make lists for library, of good books read.

Assist the city library in work among foreign children.

CONTAGION AND DISINFECTION

The Montclair Public Library has adopted the following rules for subscribers: "First, do not cough or sneeze into the book; always use a handkerchief. Second, do not moisten the fingers in turning the pages; the hand should always be clean and dry. Third, always keep the book closed when it is not being read." As an additional precaution against germs the library books are sterilized.

COUNTY LIBRARIES

Rural library service for millers. H. Winslow Fegley. *The American Miller*, F., 1916. p. 121-122. Illustrated.

A brief historical account of the Washington County, Maryland, Free Library, and its delivery service. The article emphasizes the use of the service by millers.

DISEASE. *See* Contagion and disinfection

FINANCE, LIBRARY. *See* Taxation

FOREIGNERS, WORK WITH

The "intermediate section" of the circulation department of the Public Library in Portland, Oregon, cares for the reading of students in the trade schools and also of the large dependent class of readers, those who "don't know what to read," or who are selecting books for others. Within supervision of this section are books in foreign languages, with volumes on citizenship and on learning the English language. The use of these books practically doubled during 1914-15. With the co-operation of the county clerk's office, the names of applicants for naturalization papers have been secured from time to time and circular letters of invitation, which emphasized the help the library could give in preparing for examinations, mailed to these prospective citizens. Many of the letters were brought to the library later as introductions. In an effort to appeal to the new citizens, dodgers were distributed in large numbers in Multnomah Field on Americanization day. One of the dodgers gave the location of the library and its branches and the other the number of languages represented in the book collection. Huge banners bearing similar legends were placed conspicuously on the field.

HEALTH OF ASSISTANTS. *See* Assistants—Personal life

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

High school libraries of California. Ella S. Morgan. *Pub. Libs.*, Ja., 1916. p. 8-9.

A paper which shows the rapid development of the high school library in a state that "comes very near leading all others in the number of high school librarians." It was originally read before the Library Department, N. E. A., at Oakland, Aug. 24, 1915. In January of 1903 the first high school librarian in the west was appointed at the Los Angeles High School. There were then 143 high schools owning 70,997 books. Last year 241 high schools owned libraries with a total of 340,000 books, not including pamphlets or periodicals. There were 33 libraries. The demand for persons of special fitness for these positions has caused library training schools to give special attention to this branch of endeavor. In the University of California library course last summer lectures were given by a high school librarian. "Instruction in use of books and the library is now given," says the author of the paper, who is attached to the Lincoln High School, Los Angeles, "in all the schools having librarians. This, and the regular use of the library required in daily preparation of lessons, is giving high school pupils knowledge which is bearing fruit in colleges and out. Academic instruction in library methods is given in 8 or 10 schools. Pupils are thereby given an opportunity to learn whether or not they care to go to a library school for training. Several positions are now filled by young women who first learned their aptitude for the work in this way."

Two of the Los Angeles high schools are used by summer sessions and evening schools. In the evening people of the neighborhood are also welcomed. Several high schools in country districts likewise offer the privileges of the library to the towns people. About 75 high schools are receiving the benefit of county library service in greater or lesser degree.

This paper is followed in *Public Libraries* by an outline of an 8-weeks' course in reference work given by the librarian of a small town library to the high school pupils.

INDEX LIBRORUM PROHIBITORUM

*America*, "A Catholic review of the week" for Feb. 19, 1916, (volume 14, pages 439-441), contains an interesting article by J. Harding Fisher, S.J., on the "Index librorum prohibitorum."

This is a descriptive and historical account of the "List of books that have been explicitly and officially condemned by the Catholic church, and are strictly forbidden to Catholic readers." It does not include all books that the church regards as reprehensible, nor even the worst books, but only such as have been denounced to Rome, examined, and officially condemned.

The laws of the church on this subject are contained in a single volume of two parts. The first part consists of general discussions which forbid the reading of certain general classes of books on the part of Catholics. The second part is made up of a catalog of particular ecclesiastical decisions that prohibit the reading of particular authors whose works are condemned either in their entirety or in part. There have been a number of editions of this work, which are described in the article. This last edition is published by the Vatican Press, and can be obtained for a nominal price from any Catholic bookseller.

INFECTION FROM BOOKS. *See* Contagion and disinfection

LIBRARIANS AND ASSISTANTS. *See* Assistants; Staff meetings; Vacations

LIBRARY ECONOMY—INSTRUCTION AND TRAINING. *See* Training

—NORMAL SCHOOL COURSES

A special course in library economy is given in the Western Illinois State Normal School at Macomb, supplementing the regular two-year normal work. The special certificate for the course is based upon thirty-five hours a week for one school year of practical work. A standing of not less than B in the prescribed course in library economy is a prerequisite to this course.

The candidate for his certificate shall do work which is outlined as follows:

a. He shall have charge of some particular department of library work—e. g., circulation, receiving of periodicals, binding—and be responsible for the phase of work assigned.

b. He shall practice in all phases of the routine of library work—selecting of books, ordering, receiving, classifying, accessioning, cataloging, including both classed and dictionary catalogs.

c. He shall have practice in reference work through assigned problems involving use of general and special reference books, through finding material for practice teachers and other students in the school, through assist-

ing in finding material for debates and other work of the literary societies of the school.

d. He shall have charge of and be responsible for the order in the reading room and for the general reference work during at least one busy study period each day.

The regular courses in library economy, for each of which one credit is given, cover instruction in the use of reference books, the making of bibliographies, the organization, care and use of school and class-room libraries and the school use of public library, and a course in children's reading, discussing books valuable for children's reading outside of school, the teacher's responsibility for this reading, the influence of good and bad books, and standards for judging the value of books.

In the State Normal School at Geneseo, N. Y., a general course in library methods is required of all professional students.

The aim of this course is not to train librarians, but to acquaint teachers with library indexes and helps invaluable in the preparation of their work, to prepare them for selecting books for supplementary work, for directing the children's reading, and making the school library valuable to pupils.

The first course of ten lessons on the use of the library, is given the entering class and includes the making of a bibliography on some topic used in the regular work, and a study of general reference books and of those especially valuable to teachers.

The senior class has a course of ten lessons on the use and care of books, to be given pupils during the school course, and practice in giving these lessons to children in the Training School, is provided. The principles that guide in the selection of books for children, some of the best book lists, the use of pictures in school work, how to direct the children's reading, and the help the teacher should get from the public library and from the state, are also discussed.

**LIBRARY LEAGUE.** *See* Children, Work with

**MAGAZINES.** *See* Periodicals

**NORMAL SCHOOLS—LIBRARY TRAINING IN.** *See* Library economy—Normal school courses

**PAMPHLETS.** *See* Binding—Pamphlets and Periodicals

**PERIODICALS.** *See also* Binding—Pamphlets and Periodicals

#### —HANDLING OF

During March and April, 1915, a study was made of the method employed at that time in

handling the periodicals in the library of the United Engineering Society in New York City. A report of the result of this study was printed in the annual report for that year.

The library had in its reading room the current numbers of over 1000 periodicals. After they ceased to be current the numbers were removed and filed in a store-room. When the numbers of a specific periodical constituted a completed volume with index and table of contents, these were taken out and prepared for the bookbinder. This preparation consisted in removing the wire staples which held the sheets together, in separating the advertisements from the reading matter, in collating the volume to see that all pages were present and in proper place, and in tying up in a bundle. A standard "blue slip," containing directions to the bookbinder as to the material and character of the binding and as to the content and location of the exterior lettering, was then filled out in somewhat the form of a code. An entry was made, recording this volume and the directions to be conveyed to the bookbinder by this blue slip, upon a "binding card," there being one such card for each periodical. The binding cards were retained for reference in the library. The preparations thus far made were inspected and, if necessary, revised, by the assistant librarian before the bundle with others was packed in a box for delivery to the expressman sent to the library by the bookbinder. A letter of transmittal, listing in alphabetical order and identifying each volume, was sent with each shipment. In order that the books of a set should be uniform in binding, lettering and spacing, the binder had on file a "rub" or picture of the back of each set of periodicals. New rubs were taken and sent with the letter of transmittal.

Upon return of the bound volumes from the bookbinder, the boxes were unpacked, the volumes checked against the list given in the letter of transmittal, and the binding and lettering compared with the blue slip directions. A book plate was then inserted, the volume accessioned by having it entered upon either the gift-list, the exchange-list or the purchase-list, its presence noted by a checking or by an entry in the union-list and on the shelf-list, and it was then put away on the shelves.

A study was made of the labor costs involved in the handling of each volume. The individuals involved received respectively per hour of rendered service \$0.500, \$0.465, \$0.435 and \$0.395, and are represented by the letters A, B, C, D, in the tables that accompany the report. The first table gave the labor costs

per volume of periodicals during the time that they are current. The study covered a month's time during which 1437 numbers were received, 32 hours of C service and 62 hours of A service, or a total of 94 hours being required.

non-residents and to study clubs outside of Pittsburgh. Library cards are now issued to two classes of non-residents:

(1) Taxpayers in Pittsburgh, and (2) persons who pay an annual fee of one dollar.

TABLE 1: LABOR COST PER VOLUME OF CURRENT PERIODICALS

Item	Number copies per volume					\$2
	1	4	6	12	26	
1. Unwrapping and stamping .....	A	0.0095	0.0380	0.0570	0.1140	0.2470
2. Checking receipt .....	C	0.0085	0.0340	0.0510	0.1020	0.2210
3. Claiming numbers not received .....	C	0.0012	0.0048	0.0072	0.0144	0.0312
4. Filing on current shelves .....	A	0.0083	0.0332	0.0498	0.0996	0.2158
5. Filing in storeroom .....	A	0.0042	0.0168	0.0252	0.0504	0.1092
Total cost while current .....		\$0.0317	\$0.1268	\$0.1902	\$0.3804	\$0.8242
						\$1.6484

The second table gave the labor costs per volume expended by the library in preparing the number to be sent to the bookbinder and in placing the volumes on the shelves in service after receipt from the bookbinder. The study extended over one month, during which 84 volumes were bound, the bookbinder's bill amounting to \$137.10, or \$1.634 per volume.

Persons employed or attending school in Pittsburgh may furnish the guaranty of a resident tax-payer instead of this fee. These cards entitle the holder to the same service as that provided for residents of Pittsburgh. Holders are expected to call in person for their books.

Non-resident card-holders who find it inconvenient to call in person can arrange to

TABLE 2: LABOR COSTS FOR BINDING, CATALOGING AND SHELVING PERIODICALS

Item	Cost per volume	Grade of service	Total hours
1. Selecting for binding—writing for missing parts.....	0.0565	D	12
2. Destapling, tearing up, collating and tying in bundle.....	0.1693	D	36
3. Listing on binding card, rub and blue slip, and transmissal slip and list.....	0.0476	D	8
4. Inspection and revision.....	0.0119	A	4
5. Packing .....	0.0029	B	0.5
6. Unpacking .....	0.0057	B	1
7. Checking bill and comparing with blue slip.....	0.0660	D	14
8. Book plating.....	0.0114	B	2
9. Accessioning .....	0.0105	C	2
10. Cataloging and entries in various lists.....	0.0179	A	3
11. Placing on shelves.....	0.0050	B	1
Total cost of library labor per volume.....	\$0.4047		81.5

With a view to increased efficiency, changes were made in the method of handling the periodicals, after the completion of this study. Arrangements were made with the bookbinder to assume the task of destapling. A half dozen iron-bound shipping boxes with reversible tops bearing the address of the library on one side and of the bookbinder on the other were put in service and used to contain the books in transport between the library and the bookbindery. These changes, together with the orderliness of arrangement during storage of the unbound non-current issues, made possible by the installation of new shelves on another floor, made it possible to reduce materially the cost per volume.

PUBLICITY. *See* Bulletin boards

READERS, NON-RESIDENT—RULES FOR

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has recently revised its rules for lending books to

have books sent them by post or express. An additional charge of one dollar a year will be made for this service, and a deposit of one dollar, to cover transportation charges and fines, must be made and renewed when necessary.

Library cards are issued to study clubs outside Pittsburgh upon payment of an annual fee of three dollars. A deposit of two dollars to cover transportation charges and fines, must be made and renewed when necessary. These cards may be used by any member of the club, but the total number of books charged to the club shall not exceed fifteen at any time. Applications to the library for books which are to be sent by mail or express must be made by the club secretary or librarian, and books will be sent only to her. Individual members, if they prefer, call at the library or send a messenger for books.

Most books may be kept for twenty-eight days, but recent books and those in great de-

mand are issued for seven or fourteen days only. This includes the time consumed in transit. The date when each book is due at the library is stamped on the charge slip inside the cover. A fine of two cents a day is charged on each volume after that date.

RURAL COMMUNITIES, LIBRARY WORK IN. *See* County libraries

SCHOOL BUILDINGS, BRANCHES IN. *See* Branches —In School buildings

SCHOOL LIBRARIES. *See* High school libraries

SERIALS. *See* Periodicals

SPECIAL LIBRARIES

The library of the Public Service Corporation of Newark, N. J., of which William Harper Davis is now the librarian, contains about five thousand volumes. These books are for reference and for the technical and business education and, to some extent, for the general education and recreation of employes of the Public Service Corporation as a part of its welfare work. The library also subscribes to literature pertaining to medical and other subjects bearing upon accidents, to many publications of special interest to women on the lines of household economy, to publications on municipal management, private ownership of public utilities, and a wide range of subjects of general interest. The library is open to other libraries, to organizations and to individuals, properly introduced, at all times. The books, magazines, pamphlets and other publications are kept in constant circulation in the home office building in Newark in the car barns, in the shops, the power stations and the commercial offices of Public Service in whatever section of the state they may be located.

#### SPECIALTIES—PROPOSED RECORD OF

General intermediary for investigators, correspondents and collectors. Eugene F. McPike. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916, p. 67.

"The serious student of bibliography today feels the need of some means for direct correspondence with others interested in like subjects. An attempt to meet this need is to be made by Mr. Max Bellows of 'Wheatridge,' Gloucester, England, who has issued a circular giving the names of the first hundred subscribers to a proposed monthly magazine devoted to the immediate interests of its readers wherever English is understood. The magazine would give in each issue the names and addresses of subscribers with an indication of the subjects of special interest to them. It would aim to become the official organ of

the International Society for Intercommunication, details of the organization of which have not as yet been definitely determined. The subscription price is only five shillings for six months. The entire plan seems to possess merit and promise good results."

SPONSORS FOR KNOWLEDGE. *See* Specialties—Proposed record of

#### STAFF MEETINGS

Staff meetings. Ruth Wallace. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916, p. 60-63.

The writer thinks "it is not an overstatement to assert that staff meetings are not only valuable, they are actually necessary to the best service. As a rule it is the progressive, the broad-minded, the really efficient librarian who not only approves them but makes a conscientious effort to conduct these meetings in the most effective way. Staff meetings should help the assistant to grow professionally. It is an educative process to form the habit of looking at the different departments of work as related rather than separated. Then there is the great advantage of good feeling or good fellowship. There is almost sure to be a humorous side, too, when experiences are related, such as the quest of the boy who wanted the Montezuma book for his sister, which turned out to be the Montessori method, or the high school boy, who insisted on having something about Corny Jack, meaning the coinage act.

"In the average library the twice-a-month meetings seem to be the most popular. The reading of articles or papers should be the exception rather than the rule. A few enthusiastic remarks about an article will send every member to read it for herself. In the Providence Public Library as early as 1896 magazines or journals were assigned to different ones to report on; at Gary the members respond to roll call with news items of strictly professional interest. Probably the most common study is that of book reviews. In our staff meetings in Evansville last year assistants were called on to report on their recent reading, giving estimates of both fiction and non-fiction. This winter the 11 members of our staff have chosen for special study the following subjects: journalism, ethics, socialism, education, history of literature, poetry and drama, travel, biography, South America, history, and what Miss McCollough says can best be expressed only by the number 331.8. Another 'choose one' suggestion is the study of publishing houses, for which an outline was prepared by Miss Hazeltine some years

ago. Still other suggested topics are special libraries such as the Carnegie at Pittsburgh; the Astor and Lenox, New York; John Crerar, Chicago, etc., their history and specialties."

#### TAXATION

The *Municipal Journal* of London, Feb. 4, 1916, p. 101-102, contains the paper read before the annual meeting of the Northwestern Branch of the Library Association at Bolton, on "War finance and public libraries" by Geo. T. Shaw, chief librarian of the Liverpool Public Library. This is an interesting article not only from the English point of view, but also from the American point of view, inasmuch as it suggests arguments for the justification of taxation for public libraries, and why even in stress of war times the incomes of library should not be reduced.

#### TRAINING

Opportunities for college women in library work. Mary Emogene Hazeltine. *Bookman*, F., 1916. p. 685-691. Illustrated.

Miss Hazeltine states the qualifications and opportunities of various classes of library work; public libraries with all their varied activities, such as administration, heads of departments, children's library work, branch librarian and assistants; the reference work; libraries as business aids; the library commission work; teachers of librarians.

Conditions and requirements for public library assistants. Marilla W. Freeman. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916. p. 80-81.

This paper was used in the New York State Library School in presenting a course in administration of small libraries. The writer summarized the qualifications for acceptable library service as follows: "Assistants must have at least a high school education or its equivalent; a fair knowledge of books, good health, courteous manners, neatness in appearance and in work; accuracy, speed, reliability, general intelligence, and good judgment. They should be between 18 and 30 years of age. The selection of regular assistants, excepting such as may be required for special duties, shall be made from those who have passed an examination in general information, history, and literature, to be given by the librarian at a date to be duly advertised. Papers submitted by candidates shall form the basis of the recommendation to the Board of Trustees by the library committee and the librarian for the position of assistants, although other qualifications must also be taken into consideration. Previous

to being given said employment, applicants will further be required to take a course of training in this library, training to include five hours of daily service, without salary for six months. This apprenticeship period is one of probation and if, at the end of a month, an apprentice is found to be unfitted for the work, she shall not be continued in the training class. For the present year those applicants accepted after examination and training, will be required to attend, at their own expense, the summer school for library training, in June to August. Tuition will be free to residents of the state."

#### VACATIONS

Vacations and holidays. Harry Lyman Koopman. *Pub. Libs.*, F., 1916. p. 64-65.

"In referring to holidays," says the writer, who is librarian of the John Hay Library, Providence, R. I., "I have in mind the weekly half-holidays even more than the less frequent legal holidays. Historically, vacations in educational institutions, of which libraries are an offshoot, go back for many centuries, but the general vacation in all sorts of occupations is very recent, and many of us have seen its entire development. As a feature of the standard of living, vacations and holidays should be granted by the employer out of respect to himself as to one not willing to lower the standard of living in his community. A few years ago one would have had to deal painfully with theories and probabilities in urging the importance of rest periods to efficiency; but the wonderful investigations made in the past few years, showing the increase of output produced by changing from steady work to work interspersed with intervals of rest are our warrant that these breathing times not only do not detract from the week's or the year's output, but actually contribute to it in quantity as well as quality. This is not an argument that can be pushed to the limit. It does not follow, if fish is a good brain food, that one will become a Shakespeare by eating a whale."

#### Bibliographical Notes

The Library of Congress has printed as manuscript its classification scheme for Class C, Auxiliary sciences of history.

The *South Dakota Library Bulletin*, which started its second volume with its February issue, is now issued from the office of the South Dakota Library Commission in Pierre.

"A library primer for Missouri high schools" by Henry Ormal Severance, librarian of the University of Missouri, has been issued as No. 7 of the library series of the university *Bulletin*.

The latest one of the classified lists for the *Athenaeum's* "Subject index to periodicals, 1915" covers science and technology, with special reference to the war in its technological aspects.

The New York Public Library has issued a list of reports of American cities of which it has duplicates to offer to other libraries on exchange account. About 250 cities are represented by one or more documents.

The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh has reprinted from the *Monthly Bulletin*, with some additions, the second supplement to its Debate Index, covering the period from December 1913 to December 1915.

The American Highway Association has turned over a lot of its publications to the Public Library in Washington, D. C., for distribution, the particular items being listed under "Books offered" elsewhere in this issue.

The Chicago Public Library has reprinted two useful lists from recent issues of its *Book Bulletin*, one on William Shakespeare, and one a list of "Actable one-act plays," compiled by Samuel Kaplan of the library staff.

A list of the books on the European War to be found in the Deichman Library in Christiania, has been compiled by Arne Arnesen, the librarian, and published in a pamphlet of 39 pages with the title "Literatur om verdenskrigen."

The excellent summary of the work being done in various parts of the country for the preservation of public archives, printed in the department of "Library work" last month, should have been credited to the *Minnesota History Bulletin*, from which it was copied.

The third English edition of John Foster Carr's "Guide to the United States for the Jewish immigrant," the "little green book" so useful in libraries where a foreign population is to be served, has been issued with some slight revision.

The 1916 edition of the "Staff manual" of the Bodleian Library of Oxford has been contracted to 39 pages, only the calendar, the schedule of regular duties and the lists of the staff being printed in full. The rest consists

of corrections of, and additions to, the 1915 issue.

A "Supplément nécessaire d'une bibliographie allemande de la guerre de 1864," by Erling Stensgård, is published in Aarhus, Denmark. It corrects numerous typographical inaccuracies in the German bibliography and discusses at some length the selection of Scandinavian titles included in the list.

The Circulating Library of the Alliance and the American Unitarian Association of Boston has issued a printed catalog of its books. They are for free use and will be sent to any person interested in church work who desires them. Books may be kept three weeks, the borrower paying return postage upon them.

The story hour program for 1916, issued by the Jacksonville (Fla.) Public Library, is as attractive as last year. The cover is reproduced from the Rand, McNally edition of the "Pied piper of Hamelin," and short poems and other quotations alternate with the programs and brief suggestive reading lists.

For the sixteenth year the Western Massachusetts Library Club is distributing in a four-page circular its annotated list of the best books of the year for small libraries to buy. The list was first printed in the Springfield *Republican* and was discussed at the club's midwinter meeting.

The collection of Parliamentary papers in the Public Reference Library of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, has been indexed by Joseph Walton, sub-librarian, and the reports of various royal commissions included, are shown to contain much valuable information on many questions of vital and present-day importance.

The annual cumulation of the numbers of the 1915 *Open Shelf*, published by the Cleveland Public Library and appearing about March 25, takes the place of the January 1916 number. This cumulation has been fully annotated, with scheme of classification and author and title index. The price to non-subscribers and to libraries not on the exchange list will be 25 cents.

Miss Margaret Mann's "Subject headings for use in dictionary catalogs of juvenile books" has been published by the A. L. A. Publishing Board. The subjects and references are those used in the catalog of juvenile books in the Carnegie Library at Pittsburgh, though arranged in the same form as the larger A. L. A. list.

The Public Library of Toronto has published a catalog of the books and pamphlets published in Canada up to the year 1837, of which copies are to be found in the library. The list was compiled by Miss Frances Stanton, head of the reference department, and it is hoped that it may be the forerunner of a series of contributions to Canadian bibliography issued by the department.

A bibliography of "Australasian Shakespeareana" has been compiled by Percy J. Marks, the treasurer of the Shakespeare Society of New South Wales. While it is not expected that the list as published is complete, it does contain in its 34 pages an important record of the books, pamphlets, magazine articles, etc., that have been printed in Australia and New Zealand, dealing with Shakespeare and his work.

Now it is the State Normal School at Los Angeles that has gotten out its "Library handbook," in a neat little pocket edition. The system of numbering the books, their classification and arrangement, and the card catalog are all briefly explained, and the location of the most used groups is given. The booklet also includes explanation of the important reference book aids, and the pamphlet, picture, and children's collections.

The address delivered by Dr. Henry S. Pritchett in honor of the eightieth birthday of Andrew Carnegie and the tenth anniversary of the opening of the Carnegie Institute of Pittsburgh, has been privately printed in Cleveland. The frontispiece is a reproduction of the portrait by Howard Russell Butler, now in the possession of the Cleveland Public Library, and the cover bears a picture of the entrance to the Carnegie South branch of the Cleveland Library.

The first volume and number of the "Journal of the National Institute of Social Sciences" is published by the Boston Book Company, and contains papers by men and women which are intended to "gather up and report movements, endeavors, and enterprises which express the abounding life of the nation." The volume is indexed in the Magazine Subject-Index, and is the successor to the "Journal of Social Science," whose final issue was the volume for 1909.

The second annual report of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, for the year ending Dec. 31, 1915, was submitted to the trustees in February. In addition to the regular report of the year's work, there are several ap-

pendices, including the text of the trust deed, statistics compiled from Professor Adams' report, a description of the North of Scotland rural library scheme and of similar schemes applicable to England and Wales, both local and general, and a statement of accounts for the year.

The New York Charities Directory for 1916 has adopted a different type which reduces the volume by some 200 pages, though still easily legible. The directory this year describes 1252 distinct organizations controlling over 3000 institutions in Greater New York; it lists 1449 churches of all denominations, and gives the names of over 5000 persons connected with social service in the city. Name and topical indexes, and an alphabetical arrangement of the text, make the volume easy to use for reference purposes.

A selected list of "Stories to tell to children," with stories and poems for holiday programs, compiled by Miss Edna Whiteman, supervisor of story-telling in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, is a recent publication of the library. There are some prefatory pages on story-telling in general and as carried on in Pittsburgh in particular, and these are followed by the lists of stories arranged by ages and by special days. There are also lists of the books referred to, arranged by authors, and classified and alphabetical lists of the stories, the whole making a pamphlet of 68 pages.

The Library of Congress has published the "Notes on the cataloging, care and classification of maps and atlases" by Philip Lee Phillips, chief of the division of maps and charts. These "Notes" are amplified from the ones originally contributed to the fourth edition of Cutter's "Rules for a dictionary catalog," and describe the methods in vogue and experience gained in connection with the collection in the Library of Congress. At the back of the pamphlet is a list of the publications compiled in the map division and published by the library.

Alfred Bingham is the editor of the second volume of the Handbook of the European War, published by the H. W. Wilson Company. As volume one dealt largely with the events leading up to the war, this volume is chiefly concerned with the effects of the war, as reflected by the words of the leading authors and statesmen. Events of the war have been practically ignored, to keep the size of the book within bounds. The work is divided into three sections: Germany and her allies, Great Britain

and her allies, The United States and the war. An effort has been made to observe absolute neutrality in making choice of the material.

The Illinois Library Extension Commission has made a collection of forty slides, illustrating the exhibit of the Springfield Survey, which was made under the direction of the Russell Sage Foundation. The slides selected represent city and county administration, schools, social center, play grounds, city planning, health department, recreations, juvenile court, etc., all of which may be quite as applicable to other communities as to Springfield. A description or explanation of the slides accompanies the collection. A smaller collection has been made containing only 17 of the slides which relate to the public schools, correctional system and municipal administration. A special lecture describing this part of the work of the survey is sent with this collection. Either collection will be loaned for two dollars and expressage.

A librarian sends us the following note: "It seems worth while to call to the attention of any librarians who may have overlooked it, 'A short history of Italian painting,' by Alice Van Vechten Brown and William Rankin, published by Dutton in 1914. In some 400 well-printed octavo pages is condensed a remarkable amount of information, simply written, embodying the now generally accepted judgments and including some artists not often adequately treated elsewhere. There are illustrations, bibliographies, and references to first and secondary sources. Throughout the text exact reference is constantly made to fuller information to be found in these authorities. The index, an alphabetical arrangement of artists, notes the location in church or gallery of each work listed. The page references are, unfortunately, not specific. The book has proved very useful in the Utica Public Library, and the author would welcome suggestions for making a second edition more accurate and useful."

#### LIBRARY ECONOMY

##### CLASSIFICATION

Library of Congress. Classification: Class C, Auxiliary sciences of history. Washington, D. C.: Gov. Prtg. Off., 1915. 176 p. 25 c. (Printed as manuscript.)

#### RECENT BIBLIOGRAPHIES FOR SPECIAL CLASSES

##### CATHOLICS

Grand Rapids Public Library. A list of books by Catholic authors in the . . . library. 54 p. 5 c.

#### SUBJECT BIBLIOGRAPHIES

##### ACCIDENT PREVENTION

Books and periodicals on accident and disease prevention in industry in the Library of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Gov. Prtg. Off. 23 p. (U. S. Dept. of Labor. Bur. of Labor Statistics.)

##### AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

American Geographical Society of New York. Memorial volume of the transcontinental excursion of 1912 of the society. New York: The society, 1915. bibl. \$5 n.

##### BUDDHISM

Pratt, Ida A., comp. Buddhism; a list of works in the New York Public Library compiled under the direction of Dr. Richard Gottheil. (In *Bull. of the N. Y. P. L.*, F., 1916. p. 117-180.)

##### CHILD WELFARE

Child (The) welfare manual; a handbook of child nature and nurture for parents and teachers; prepared by the editorial board of the University Society, with the assistance of Michael V. O'Shea and others. 2 vols. New York: University Society, 44 E. 23d St., 1915. 4 p. bibl. \$5.95 (subh.).

##### CHILDREN

Kansas City Public Library. A reading list on children; including mothers, care and hygiene, home education and training, boy and girl building. 11 p. (Special library list no. 12.)

Tanner, Amy Eliza. The child; his thinking, feeling, and doing; with an introduction by G. Stanley Hall. 3. ed. rev. and enl. Rand, McNally, 1915. bibl. \$1.25.

##### CITIZENSHIP

Davidson, Charles. Active citizenship; a study outline. Tentative ed. White Plains, N. Y.: H. W. Wilson Co., 1915. bibl. 25 c. (Study outline series.)

##### CLASSIFICATION

Sayers, W. C. B. Canons of classification. White Plains, N. Y.: H. W. Wilson Co. 5 p. bibl. 75 c.

##### CORPORATIONS

Gerstenberg, Charles W. Materials of corporation finance. 2. ed. New York: Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1915. bibl. \$4.

##### DRAMA

A list of modern drama in Case Library. Cleveland, O.: Samuel. 23 p.

Kaplan, Samuel, comp. Actable one-act plays. Chicago Public Library. 15 p. (Reprinted from the *Chicago Book Bulletin*.)

##### EDUCATION

Bloomfield, Meyer. Youth, school, and vocation; with an introduction by Henry Suzzallo. Houghton Mifflin, 1915. 6 p. bibl. \$1.25.

Kendall, Calvin Noyes, and Mirick, George Alonzo. How to teach the fundamental subjects. Houghton Mifflin, 1915. 4 p. bibl. \$1.25. Riverside textbooks in education.)

##### EDUCATION—GRADING PUPILS

Hoke, K. J. Placement of children in the elementary schools; a study of the schools of Richmond, Va. Washington, D. C.: Gov. Prtg. Off. bibl. (U. S. Dept. of Interior. Bur. of Educ. Bull., 1916, no. 3.)

##### EDUCATION—IMMIGRANTS

Shiels, Albert, ed. The school and the immigrant; a series of articles on the education of immigrants; prepared by direction of Thomas W. Churchill. New York City: Dept. of Educ., 1915. 6 p. bibl. 10 c. (Div. of Reference and Research publs.)

##### ENGLAND—HISTORY

Slater, Gilbert. The making of modern England. New rev. ed., with prefatory note by James T. Shotwell. Houghton Mifflin, 1915. 23 p. bibl. \$2.

##### EUGENICS

Guyer, Michael Frederic. Being well-born; an introduction to eugenics. Bobbs-Merrill. 3 p. bibl. \$1 n. (Childhood and youth series.)

## EUROPEAN WAR

Deichmanske Bibliotek. *Literatur om verdenskrigen*. I. Christiania: The library. 39 p.

Edwards, Albert, *pseud.* of Arthur Bullard. *The diplomacy of the great war*. Macmillan. 6 p. bibl. \$1.50 n.

The European War; some works recently added to the library. (In *Bull. of the N. Y. P. L.*, F., 1916, p. 181-189.)

## EXPORT TRADE

A select list of export trade publications and other business books. New York: The International Book Co. 24 p.

## GALICIA

Stepanovsky, Vladimir. *The Russian plot to seize Galicia (Austrian Ruthenia)*. 2. ed. enl. by the extracts from the American press dealing with the attempted Russification of Galicia during the late occupation of that province. Jersey City, N. J.: Ukrainian Nat. Council, 1915. 4 p. bibl. 25 c.

## JAPAN

Culin, Stewart. *Bibliography of Japan; costume, armor, flower arrangement, gardens, archery, architecture, games, sculpture*. Brooklyn: The Museum of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences. 12 p. 10 c.

## LAW

Lee, Robert Warden. *An introduction to Roman Dutch law*. Oxford Univ. Press, 1915. 5 p. bibl. \$4.15 n.

## LONGSHOREMEN

Barnes, Charles Brinton. *The longshoremen; a study carried on under the direction of Pauline Goldmark*. New York: Survey Associates, 1915. 6 p. bibl. \$2 n. (Russell Sage Foundation publications.)

## MANUAL ARTS

Detroit Public Library. *Manual arts; selected list of books*. 6 p.

## MILTON, JOHN

Clark, Evert Mordecai, *ed.* *The ready and easy way to establish a free commonwealth*, by John Milton. Edited, with introduction, notes, and glossary; a thesis presented to the faculty of the Graduate School of Yale University, in candidacy for the degree of doctor of philosophy. New Haven, Ct.: Yale Univ., 1915. 8 p. bibl. \$1.50 n. (Yale studies in English.)

## MINING

Cunningham, Jesse, *comp.* *List of references on concentrating ores by flotation*. Rolla, Mo.: Univ. of Mo., School of Mines and Metallurgy. 104 p. (Bulletin, Ja., 1916. Vol. 8, no. 1.)

## MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT

Munro, Prof. W. B. *Municipal government; a selected list of fifty books*. . . . First draft under revision. (In "Atlantic City topics," printed by the New Jersey Library Assn. for the meeting, Mar. 3, 1916.)

## PAGEANTS

Indiana State Library. *List of books on pageants*. 8 p. (Reference circular no. 4.)

## PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION

Brinton, Christian. *Impressions of the art at the Panama-Pacific Exposition; with a chapter on the San Diego Exposition and an introductory essay on the modern spirit in contemporary painting*. Lane, 5 p. bibl. \$3 n.

## PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS

Walton, Joseph. *Index catalogue of the Parliamentary papers in the Public Reference Library; edited by Basil Anderton*. Newcastle upon Tyne, Eng.: The library, 1915. 74 p.

## PEACE

Reely, Mary Katharine, *comp.* *Selected articles on world peace; including international arbitration and disarmament*. 2. ed. enl. White Plains, N. Y.: H. W. Wilson Co. 19 p. bibl. \$1 n. (Debaters' handbook series.)

## PERSIA

Sykes, Lieut.-Col. Percy Molesworth. *A history of Persia*. 2 v. Macmillan, 1915. 6 p. bibl. \$15 n.

## PRINTING

Practical books about printing and the allied trades. Chicago: The Inland Printer Co. 36 p.

## PROVERBS

Marvin, Dwight Edwards, *comp. and ed.* *Curiosities in proverbs; a collection of unusual adages, maxims, aphorisms, phrases, and other popular dicta from many lands; classified and arranged with annotations*. Putnam. 5 p. bibl. \$1.75 n.

## PSYCHOLOGY

Patrick, George Thomas White. *The psychology of relaxation*. Houghton Mifflin. bibl. \$1.25 n.

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Cubberley, Ellwood Patterson. *Public school administration; a statement of the fundamental principles underlying the organization of public education*. Houghton Mifflin. bibl. \$1.75 n. (River-side text-books in public education.)

RAT Donaldson, Henry Herbert, *comp. and ed.* *The rat: reference tables and data for the albino rat (*Mus norvegicus albino*) and the Norway rat (*Mus norvegicus*)*. Philadelphia: Wistar Inst. of Anatomy and Biology, 1915. 53 p. bibl. \$3 n. (Memoirs.)

Huber, Gotthelf Carl. *The development of the albino rat, *Mus norvegicus albino**: 1. From the pronucleate stage to the stage of mesoderm anlage . . . ; 2. Abnormal ova. . . . Philadelphia: Wistar Inst. of Anatomy and Biology, 1915. bibl. \$2.50 n. (Memoirs.)

## RURAL LIFE

Gillette, John Morris. *Constructive rural sociology; with an introduction by George E. Vincent*. New ed., rev. and enl. Sturgis & Walton, 1913-1915. bibl. \$1.60 n.

## SANUDO, MARCO

Fotheringham, John Knight, and Williams Lawrence Frederick Rushbrook. *Marco Sanudo, conqueror of the Archipelago*. Oxford Univ. Press, 1915. 9 p. bibl. \$3.40 n.

## SERIALS

List of serials in the Leland Stanford, Junior, University Library. Berkeley, Cal.: The university. 109 p.

## SHAKESPEARE, WILLIAM

Chicago Public Library. *William Shakespeare, 1616-1916; selected list of books in the . . . library*. 32 p. (Reprinted from the *Chicago Book Bulletin*.)

Marks, Percy J. *Australasian Shakespeareana: a bibliography of books, pamphlets, magazine articles, &c., that have been printed in Australia and New Zealand, dealing with Shakespeare and his works*. Sydney: Tyrrell's Limited, 99 Casterreagh St., 1915. 34 p. 2s. 6d.

William Shakespeare; an annotated catalogue of the works of William Shakespeare, and the books relating to him, in the Norwich [Eng.] Public Library. (In *Shakespeare number of Norwich P. L. Readers' Guide*, Mar., 1916. p. 32-53.)

## SLAVS

Yarros, Gregory. *The Slav peoples; a study outline*. Tentative ed. White Plains, N. Y.: H. W. Wilson Co., 1915. 5 p. bibl. 25 c. (Study outline series.)

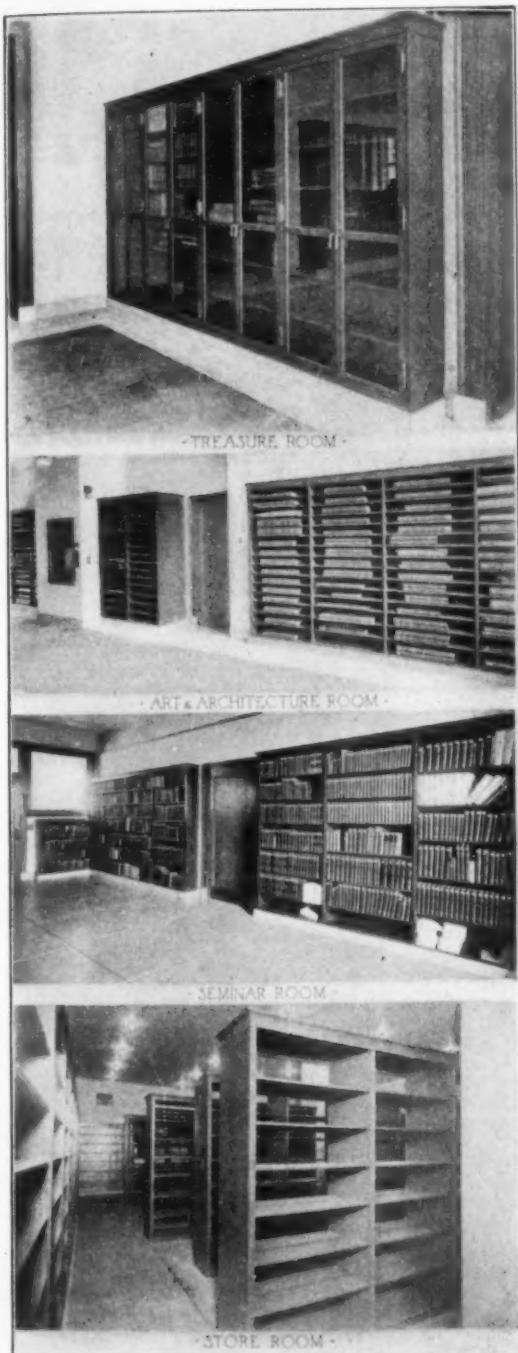
## Library Calendar

April 19. California School Library Association. San Francisco Civic Auditorium, 2:30 p.m.

May 8. Pennsylvania Library Club. June 26-July 1. American Library Association. Annual conference, Asbury Park, N. J.

June 27-29. Special Libraries Association. Annual meeting, Asbury Park, N. J.

July 3-8. National Educational Association. Annual conference, New York City.



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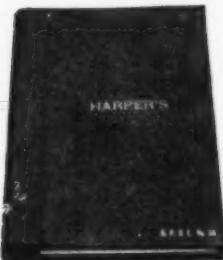
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